

Wabash Plain Dealer

WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 13, 2019

\$2 As low as 86¢ with a paid subscription

Shining light on Wabash County since 1859.



Pulse
of Wabash

Wabash Plain Dealer's new office now open

The Wabash Plain Dealer's new office is now open on the second floor at 99 W. Canal St.

Band to perform at Eagle's Lodge

Fraternal Order of Eagles Lodge No. 549 will host a performance of the Undercover band from 8 p.m. to midnight Friday, Nov. 15 at 140 Walter St. Attendees must be 18 years or older to attend. There is no cost.

Kokomo day trip planned for next month

The North Manchester Historical Society and Shepherd's Center are sponsoring a day trip to Kokomo Opalescent Glass, Celebrations Event Center and Seiberling Mansion on Thursday, Dec. 12. The cost of the day trip is \$72 and includes luxury coach, both tours, lunch, and any tips and taxes. Please RSVP by Nov. 15. For detailed information contact Bernie Ferringer, tour coordinator, by mail at 314 Sunset Drive, North Manchester, IN 46962; by email at bernieevicki@gmail.com; or by phone at 260-982-8734.

Manchester University offers 'Curious Incident' play

Manchester University Theater presents "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time," at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 15 and Saturday, Nov. 16, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 17 in Cordier Auditorium on the North Manchester campus. General admission is \$10; it is \$7 for students and senior citizens; and free for MU faculty, staff and students.

Downtown Night to Remember planned

The following schedule of events had been released for Friday, Nov. 15: 4 to 9 p.m., Holiday Open Houses and Map Stamping; 6:30 to 7 p.m., The Lighting of the Courthouse including Santa's arrival; and 7:15 to 9 p.m., Visit with Santa at Wabash City Hall.

Downtown businesses to extend hours on select dates

Participating shops will be open until 7 p.m. on the following dates: Nov. 15, 17,

See PULSE / Page A6

Inside

Classified, B6 Sports, B1
Comics, B4 Education, A5
Crossword, B4 Viewpoint, A4
Obituaries, A3 Weather, A2



Purdue Extension Wabash County provides progress report

New agricultural and natural resources educator could be announced Monday

BY ROB BURGESS
rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

After several months of staff turnover, the Purdue Extension Wabash County is set to fill one of the two open educator positions.

Joshua Winrotte, Howard County Purdue Extension educator for 4-H youth development, delivered a progress report to the Wabash County Board of Commissioners during their regular meeting

Monday.

Winrotte said the open position left by last month's retirement of Curt Campbell, agricultural and natural resources educator, could filled as soon as next week.

"Hopefully by (next) Monday we'll share who your new ag educator is," said Winrotte.

Winrotte said they would be interviewing the final two applicants on Wednesday.

"It's a testament to this area

that are so many qualified candidates in the area," he said.

Winrotte said their goal was to have the person they select start by the start of next month, at the earliest.

"They may not be able to start quite that quickly, but by the new year there will be an ag educator in place," he said.

The other position remains open after Angela Christopher, 4-H youth development educator and county extension director, left her position in August to take a job as a Maconaquah Middle School

teacher, according to Tammy Unger, office manager of the Purdue Extension Wabash County.

"We intend to get the right person, not just a person," said Winrotte. "A couple of the candidates we've had come across have been people that probably could fill the seat, but we want somebody who can excel."

Winrotte said that the farming classes Campbell had taught in previous years would continue in January and February with some outside assistance.



PHOTOS BY ROB BURGESS / Plain Dealer

STRAW: Megan Price, education specialist with Science Central, left, snips pieces of the straw Kass Dial, 5, center, blew through to make higher and higher pitches.

Good vibrations

Science Central teaches children about sound waves

BY ROB BURGESS
rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

On Tuesday afternoon at the Wabash Carnegie Public Library, Megan Price, education specialist with Science Central, had an array of props on the table in front of her.

And they were all there to illustrate to the assembled children and parents of the Homeschool Science Club the same idea.

For her first demonstration, she selected two student volunteers to hold opposite ends of a Slinky, which was then stretched a few feet apart.

"We're going to use our Slinky to model something called soundwaves," said Price. "A soundwave is a compression wave."

Price said the open areas in the soundwave are called rarefactions. The children then pushed and pulled the Slinky to demonstrate this idea.

Price then presented a clear container filled with



TUNING FORK: Price demonstrates how the water vibrates when a sounded tuning fork is introduced.

water dyed blue.

"We're going to see if we can hear a sound and make sound travel through water," she said.

Price then selected two more students to assist. She

then handed each a tuning fork.

"We're going to watch what happens when you put a tuning fork into water," she said, before demonstrating the how the water

vibrated when a sounded tuning fork was introduced.

Price asked the students to hold their hands over their throats before making high

See SCIENCE / Page A2

Holiday season officially begins with open house Friday

Annual event to be presented in conjunction with Downtown Night to Remember

STAFF REPORT

The holidays have arrived early at the Honeywell Center and will be celebrated with its annual Holiday Open House scheduled to take place from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 15, according to a press release.

"This festive event is in conjunction with Wabash's Downtown Night to Remember, which signifies the official kickoff to the holiday season," stated the release. "Come see the Honeywell Center's spectacular holiday transformation up close by touring the glistening wonderland."

This year's holiday décor theme is "Favorite Holiday Movies."

A team of 29 volunteers began decorating in early October. The volunteers include Linda Ahlfield, Kraig Ahlfield, Sarah Andrews, Bobby Bishop, Sheryl Bishop, Shirley Bucher, Kelly Cupp, Steve Dyer, Paula Dyer, Sharon Fisher, Ed Gilbert, Donna Harman, Robin Hodge, Diana Iden, Kathy Knecht, Bonnie Masterson, Patty Metzger, Craig Petrowsky, Jackie Ramsey, Eric Schoening, Monica Sparling, Dan Swihart, Shelly Swihart, Mary Ann Swihart, Richard Tucker, Robin Unger, Lynn Watson, Cheryl Working and Judy Zolman.

The decorations will adorn the Honeywell Center through Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020.

Mayor Scott Long will begin the festivities at 6 p.m. by sharing a few words. Following will be a performance by the Wabash High School's Symphonic Voices under the direction of Mark Nevil. The choir will sing a selection of holiday tunes, setting the mood for Santa's arrival on the scene.

"Children can get their picture taken with the jolly old elf while making it known what they want for Christmas. Parents, be sure to bring a camera," stated the release.

Guests may also enjoy the Winter Street Banner Contest, which will be on display in the Clark Gallery.

The Holiday Open House event is free and open to the public.

"Attending this annual holiday event is a great way to create memories with the whole family," stated the release.

For more information, contact the Honeywell Foundation Box Office by calling 260-563-1102, or visit the Honeywell Center website at www.HoneywellCenter.org.

'Throwback' movies scheduled for Honeywell Center

Classic films set for Tuesdays, Nov. 26 to Dec. 17

STAFF REPORT

The Honeywell Center will present classic films every Tuesday in the Ford Theater Nov. 26 through Dec. 17, according to a press release.

"Throwback Tuesdays"

will take place at 7 p.m. and the admission fee will be \$2 per person.

"Special thanks go to our lead sponsor for Throwback Tuesdays, Hometown Hearing & Audiology," stated the release.

The following is a complete list of movies that will be shown:

■ "A Christmas Story," at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 26. "Just when everything seemed

to go against him, Ralphie gets his biggest Christmas gift wish fulfilled. Just don't shoot your eye out," stated the release.

■ "It's A Wonderful Life," at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3. "An angel helps a compassionate but despairingly frustrated businessman by showing what life would have been like if he never existed," stated the release.

■ "The Polar Express,"

at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10. "A young boy embarks on a magical adventure to the North Pole on the Polar Express. During his adventure, he learns about friendship, bravery, and the spirit of Christmas," stated the release.

■ "White Christmas," at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17. "A successful song-and-dance team becomes romantically involved with a sister act

and team up to save the failing Vermont inn of their former commanding general," stated the release.

Throwback Tuesdays originally took place at the Eagles Theatre and will return to that location upon completion of the current renovation project.

For more information, visit www.HoneywellCenter.org/movies or call the Box Office at 260-563-1102.

No. 1 milk company declares bankruptcy amid drop in demand

BY MICHELLE CHAPMAN and DEE-ANN DURBIN
AP Business Writers

Got milk? Increasingly, Americans don't, and that led the nation's biggest milk producer to file for bankruptcy Tuesday.

Dean Foods blamed a decadeslong drop in milk consumption that has seen people turn to alternatives like soda, juice and almond milk.

The Dallas company said it may sell itself to the Dairy Farmers of America, a marketing cooperative owned by thousands of farmers.

"Despite our best efforts to make our business more agile and cost-efficient, we continue to be impacted by a challenging operating environment marked by continuing declines in consumer milk consumption," CEO Eric Berigause said in a statement.

Since 1975, the amount of liquid milk consumed per capita in the U.S. has tumbled more than 40 percent. Americans drank around 24 gallons a year in 1996, according to government data. That dropped to 17 gallons in 2018.

An increasing variety of beverages, including teas and sodas, has hurt milk consumption. So have protein bars, yogurts and other on-the-go breakfasts, which take the place of a morning bowl of cereal.

More recently, health and animal-welfare concerns have also contributed, as more shoppers seek out non-dairy alternatives.

Oat milk, for example, saw U.S. sales rise 636 percent to more than \$52 million over

the past year, according to Nielsen data. Sales of cow's milk dropped 2.4 percent in that same time frame.

Not all dairy products have been affected. U.S. butter and cheese consumption is up since 1996, for example.

"We're eating our dairy, not drinking it," said Mark Stephenson, director of dairy policy analysis at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The downturn has had an outsize effect on Dean Foods, which derived 67 percent of its sales from fluid milk last year, according to its annual report. The company has lost money in eight of its last 10 quarters and posted declining sales in seven of the last eight.

Dean employs 16,000 people and operates 60 processing facilities across the country. On any given day, it is running 8,000 refrigerated delivery trucks on U.S. roads.

It supplies milk for its own brands, like Dairy Pure, Meadow Gold and TruMoo, as well as store brands. One big blow came last year, when Walmart opened its own milk processing plant in Indiana.

Dean said it will continue operating normally while it puts its finances in order under Chapter 11 bankruptcy. It has lined up about \$850 million in financing from lenders.

The bankruptcy filing comes at a difficult time for dairy farmers, who were already struggling with low prices because of oversupply.

Linda Ceylor and her husband, Gerald, operate an organic farm near Catawba, Wisconsin, where they milk fewer than 50 cows and

raise heifers.

Ceylor said Dean Foods' woes mirror what smaller producers are facing. She said the most hurtful part is watching young people go out of business, including three neighbors in their 30s.

"All they ever wanted to do is milk cows, and all three of them said they can't do it anymore," Ceylor said. "That's like watching your grandchildren go through a massive problem you can't do anything about. There's really no other choice for them to make."

Darin Von Ruden, president of the Wisconsin Farmers Union, said he is concerned about Dean Foods selling itself to Dairy Farmers of America.






"That's two of the five biggest companies in the country, and when you start looking at that kind of consolidation, is that good for producers? The answer is probably no," said Von Ruden, who is selling his dairy operation to his son.

Dean is already a product of consolidation. It was bought by Suiza Foods Corp. in 2001. The new, larger company assumed the Dean name and bought several other milk producers.

Stephenson said that left Dean with a large number of aging facilities. At the same time, it sold off some non-dairy brands, like TofuTown, becoming less diversified.





Stephenson said Dean was also slow to innovate. He cited growing sales of Fairlife milk, a Coca-Cola Co. brand that is lower in lactose and higher in protein.

5-Day Weather Summary

 Wednesday Mostly Cloudy 28 / 20	 Thursday Mostly Cloudy 34 / 21	 Friday Sunny 32 / 23	 Saturday Partly Cloudy 33 / 27	 Sunday Mostly Cloudy 38 / 32
--	--	--	--	--

Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 5:31 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 7:33 a.m.

 Last 11/19	 New 11/26	 First 12/4	 Full 12/12
--	--	--	--


Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 28°, humidity of 55%. South wind 6 to 15 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with a slight chance of snow, overnight low of 20°. South southwest wind 3 to 10 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 17°.

Vegan diet can accommodate need for choline

DEAR DOCTOR: I've been eating a vegan diet for about a year. My mom says she read that vegans don't get enough choline, and that's dangerous. Is this true? What is choline, and where does it come from?

ELIZABETH KO & EVE GLAZIER
Ask the Doctors



DEAR READER: Choline is an essential nutrient that is abundantly available in animal-based products such as eggs, dairy products, beef, chicken and fish, and in somewhat smaller concentrations in vegetables, legumes and grains. It's the source of chemical compounds known as methyl groups, which circulate in the body and play a role in the proper functioning of numerous metabolic processes in the brain and nervous system, including mood, memory and muscle control.

Choline is vital to the proper structure and performance of cell membranes, including those in the brain, and it is important in gene expression. It has been linked to lower levels of chronic inflammation, and offers protective properties in certain types of heart disease. It's also important in early development.

Although choline is produced by the liver, the quantities are not adequate for the body's daily needs. That's what makes it an "essential nutrient." There is no recommended daily allowance for choline. Instead, a guideline known as Adequate Intake, or AI, has been established. For adults, the AI is 425 milligrams per day for women and 550 milligrams per day for men. For children, the number ranges from 125 milligrams per day for infants to 375 milligrams per day for young teens. Because choline is so important to development, women who are pregnant or nursing need more of the nutrient.

According to the National Institutes of Health, most people in the United States, whether vegans, vegetarians or omnivores, fall short on consumption of the nutrient. And while

it's true that animal-based foods have the highest levels of choline, plant-based sources are also widely available. Certain vegetables, beans and grains are good sources of choline. For example, one-half cup of roasted soybeans has almost as much choline as 3 ounces of lean beef. One-half cup of broccoli has only slightly less choline than 1 cup of low-fat milk. A cup of cauliflower has as much choline as 3 ounces of grilled chicken.

If your personal preferences steer you away from choline-rich foods, you can consider making up the shortfall with supplements. Just be sure to stick to the dietary guidelines and not to go overboard. Too much choline can result in nausea and

vomiting, excess sweating and salivation, low blood pressure and liver problems.

The bottom line here, as always when we're talking about health and nutrition, is to avoid the empty calories in the snack food aisle and the fast food drive-through, and focus instead on eating and cooking from a wide range of whole foods. Your body – and, we suspect, your mother – will thank you.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1450, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.



PHOTOS BY ROB BURGESS / Plain Dealer

BELL: Price shows off the ringing bell before placing it into a vacuum to show how sound wouldn't travel in space.



SONG: Price brings out a set of giant straw tubes called Boomwhackers so the volunteers can play versions of "Mary Had a Little Lamb" and "Frère Jacques."

SCIENCE

Continued from A1

and low sounds to feel the difference. She also asked them to notice the vibrations they felt when they clapped their hands.

Price then put a ringing bell into a vacuum to show how sound wouldn't travel in space.

Kass Dial, 5, was Price's next volunteer. She presented him with a straw, which he blew through as she snapped pieces off the end to change the pitch of the sound it made on the end.

When we shorten something like the straw, we get a higher pitch or a higher sound.

Expanding on this concept, Price then brought out

a set of giant straw tubes called Boomwhackers. She selected a handful of volunteers to play each one, which emitted a single note

after being hit.

The improved orchestra then played impromptu versions of "Mary Had a Little Lamb" and "Frère Jacques."

THE ROXY MOVIE THEATER

Showtimes for Friday, November 8 - Thursday, November 14
All showtimes have Closed Captioning available.

Doctor Sleep (R) Fri: 6:20, 9:15 Sat: 12:35, 3:30, 6:20, 9:15 Sun: 12:35, 3:30, 6:20 Mon- Thurs: 6:20	Playing with Fire (PG) Fri: 6:50, 9:35 Sat: 1:05, 3:50, 6:50, 9:35 Sun: 1:05, 3:50, 6:50 Mon- Thurs: 6:50	Maleficent: Mistress Of Evil in 2D (PG) Fri: 7:00, 9:45 Sat: 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45 Sun: 1:15, 4:00, 7:00 Mon- Thurs: 7:00
Last Christmas (PG13) Fri: 6:40, 9:05 Sat: 12:55, 4:10, 6:40, 9:05 Sun: 12:55, 4:10, 6:40 Mon- Thurs: 6:40	Terminator: Dark Fate (R) Fri: 6:30, 9:25 Sat: 12:45, 3:40, 6:30, 9:25 Sun: 12:45, 3:40, 6:30 Mon- Thurs: 6:30	

For more information please call
765-460-5322
or visit us online at www.roxyperu.com
Located at 100 Roxy Lane, North edge of Peru

READERS' CHOICE REPORTS

MONDAY'S LOTTERIES

Cash 5
28-29-36-38-42
Jackpot: \$177,500
Cash4Life
07-14-27-28-39, Cash Ball: 1
Daily Three-Midday
1-5-8, SB: 3
Daily Three-Evening
7-1-8, SB: 7
Daily Four-Midday
5-3-4-3, SB: 3
Daily Four-Evening
7-1-4-0, SB: 7
Mega Millions
Jackpot: \$163 million
Powerball
Jackpot: \$60 million

MONDAY'S METALS

Aluminum	0.82
Copper	2.66
Lead	0.96
Zinc	1.15
Gold	1,454.00
Silver	16.72
Platinum	868.11

AREA GRAIN

Estimated grain prices
Tuesday at Indianapolis-area elevators: Corn: \$ 4.03.
Soybeans: \$8.87.



Wabash Plain Dealer

99 W. Canal St.
Wabash, Ind. 46992

VOL. 161 NO. 224

Linda Kelsay
Publisher
lkelsay@wabashplaindealer.com

Rob Burgess
Editor
rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

Christi Kincade
Advertising Director
ckincade@wabashplaindealer.com

Talk to us

Main number 260-563-2131
Main fax 260-563-0816
Website www.wabashplaindealer.com

Circulation

Customer Service Telephone Hours: 260-563-2131 Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. - 11 a.m.	your account is active, call us at 260-563-2131.
Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 9 a.m. - noon; 1 - 5 p.m.	Home delivery subscription rates: Daily, 13 weeks, \$59.50. EZ-Pay, monthly, \$18.65. Other payment options available by calling Subscriber Services at 260-563-2131.
Delivery: Your newspaper is delivered by the USPS and will arrive with your daily mail.	POSTMASTER: Send address change to Wabash Plain Dealer, 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.
Missed your paper? We sincerely hope not, but if you did please contact your local post office. To verify that	There will be a \$10 early termination fee to cancel an existing subscription prior to expiration date.

Advertising

Office Hours: Monday through Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Walk-in hours are from 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. 260-563-2131 (after hours, press 5 for advertising)	Classified: classifieds@wabashplaindealer.com Legals: legals@wabashplaindealer.com Retail: cbrown@wabashplaindealer.com
--	--

Newsroom

Office Hours Monday-Thursday: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Walk-in hours are from 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.	Friday-Sunday: Hours vary Call: 260-563-2131 E-mail: news@wabashplaindealer.com
--	---

(Please call in advance of your visit.)

USPS 663-940

Wabash Plain Dealer established September 1858

Published Tuesdays through Saturdays (except on postal holidays) by Paxton Media Group, by the Wabash Plain Dealer, 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992. Periodical postage paid at Wabash, Ind.

No portion of this publication may be reproduced without the written consent of the General Sales Manager of the Wabash Plain Dealer.



Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service
We can assist you with your
Pre-planning and monument needs.



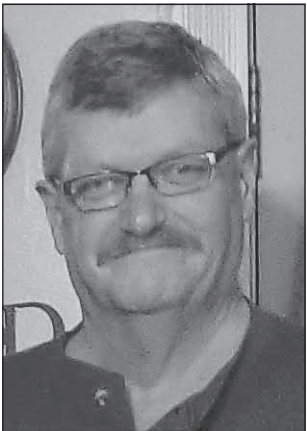
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.
**GRANDSTAFF
HENTGEN**
Wabash Chapel: Manchester Ave. • 260-563-8879
Bender Chapel, North Manchester • 260-982-4393
Roann Chapel • 765-833-5591
Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash • 260-563-0421
www.grandstaff-hentgen.com

Steven ‘Steve’ R. Kline
Sept. 9, 1955 - Nov. 11, 2019

Steven “Steve” R. Kline, 64, North Manchester, passed away at 6:45 a.m. on Nov. 11, 2019 at his residence. On Sept. 9, 1955, Steve was born in Wabash County, Indiana to Ray and Bertha (Betten) Kline.

Steven worked as a truck driver for Syndicat Sales in Kokomo, Indiana for 20 years starting in 1999. He was a hardworking man that loved his job. During his career, Steve received recognition for driving 4 million miles accident free, an achievement that he was very proud of. On July 1, 1991, he married Sandy Hutchison.

The memory of Steve will be remembered by his wife, Sandy Kline, North Manchester; 1 son David (Marlene) Oltman, Bluffton, Indiana; 2 brothers Allen (Marea) Kline, Akron, Indiana and Roger (Patty) Kline, North Manchester, Indiana; sisters, Susan Kline, Akron, Indiana, Sara (Rick) Greer, North Manchester, Sally (Mark) Dyson, Roann, Indiana; 1 sister-in-law Mary Kline, North Manchester; 1 brother-in-law Randy Buss, North Manchester, Indiana; 3 grandchildren Jacob, Andrew, Alyssa Oltman; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents,



1 brother, Ron Kline passed away in 2005, and 2 sisters Sandra L. Buss passed away in 2016 and Barbara Kline passed away in 1946.

Family and friends may call Saturday, Nov. 16, 2019 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at McKee Mortuary, 1401 State Road 114 West, North Manchester, Indiana. Services will begin at the conclusion of calling. Pastor J.P. Freeman and Pastor Mike Williams will officiate. Burial will be held at a later date at Oaklawn Cemetery, 600 Beckley, Street, North Manchester, Indiana.

For those who wish to honor the memory of Steven Kline, memorial contributions may be made to an organization of the donor’s choice.

Arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

Helen L. Garner

Helen L. Garner, 102, of Wabash, passed away at 4:03 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 11, 2019 at Wellbrooke of Wabash.

Helen is survived by 3 grandsons, Todd Murphy, Brian (Amy) Murphy and Jay (Sherry) Murphy, all of Wabash.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 15,

2019 at McDonald Funeral Home, 231 Falls Ave., Wabash, Indiana 46992. Burial will follow at Falls Cemetery in Wabash.

Visitation for family and friends will be one prior to the funeral services starting at 9 a.m.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.mcdonaldfunerals.com

Former President
Carter out of surgery,
no complications

BY JAY REEVES
and SHAMEKA DUDLEY-LOWE
Associated Press

ATLANTA — Former President Jimmy Carter was recovering Tuesday following surgery to relieve pressure on his brain from bleeding linked to recent falls.

A statement from his spokeswoman said there were no complications from the procedure, performed at Emory University Hospital for a subdural hematoma, blood trapped on the brain’s surface.

Carter, 95, will remain in the hospital for observation, said Deanna Congileo, his spokeswoman at the Carter Center.

The statement said the Carters thank everyone for the many well-wishes they have received, and Congileo doesn’t anticipate making more announcements until he’s released.

It was unclear how long Carter might be hospitalized, said his pastor, the Rev. Tony Lowden.

“If anybody can make it through this Jimmy Carter can. His will to serve is greater than his will to give up,” said Lowden.

The Carter Center said the bleeding was related to Carter’s recent falls. He used a walker during his most recent public appearance.

The first fall, in the spring, required hip replacement surgery. He hit his head falling again on Oct. 6 and received 14 stitches, but still traveled to Nashville, Tennessee, to help build a Habitat for Humanity home shortly thereafter. And he was briefly hos-

pitalized after fracturing his pelvis on Oct. 21.

Carter’s wife of 73 years, Rosalynn Carter, is with him at the hospital, Lowden said. “She won’t leave his side,” Lowden said.

Large bleeds, usually after major trauma, can be life-threatening. But often, especially in elderly patients, the injury is a slow leak that takes a while to build up until initial symptoms such as headaches and confusion appear, said Dr. Lola B. Chambliss, associate professor of neurological surgery at Vanderbilt University.

“It’s very typical in this setting to see these develop a few weeks or even a month or so after a fall,” said Chambliss, who has not treated Carter.

To relieve pressure, surgeons most commonly drill one or two small holes through the skull to drain the leakage site. Larger bleeds causing more severe pressure may require removing a piece of skull.

Carter has been through a series of health problems in recent years.

He received a dire cancer diagnosis in 2015, announcing that melanoma had spread. After partial removal of his liver, treatment for brain lesions, radiation and immunotherapy, he said he was cancer-free.

Despite his increasingly frail health, the nation’s oldest-ever ex-president still teaches Sunday school about twice monthly at Maranatha Baptist Church in his hometown of Plains in southwest Georgia.

Impeachment aside, federal
budget remains a pressing matter

BY ANDREW TAYLOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Impeachment hearings for President Donald Trump come at the very time that Capitol Hill usually tends to its mound of unfinished business.

The politically explosive hearings and the possibility of impeachment and a trial create yet another layer of complications for senior lawmakers pressing for an agreement on \$1.4 trillion worth of federal agency budgets or finalizing a rewrite of the North American trade rules.

Public hearings into Trump’s actions with Ukraine promise to generate all the attention in Washington and stoke the partisan flames inside the Capitol ever hotter.

Yet the coming weeks could still be the last, best opportunity for lawmakers to wrap up their work on the budget and the trade deal, even as stakeholders admit the timetable could easily slip amid foot-dragging and partisan flare-ups.

As the House returns from a quick break, the sole piece of must-do business before Thanksgiving is to pass a governmentwide stopgap spending bill to avert the second government shutdown within a year.

Avoiding a shutdown shouldn’t be a problem, at least for now, with passage of a temporary, governmentwide spending bill to perhaps Dec. 20 virtually assured. Top leaders on Capitol Hill, however, are struggling with a full-year solution on the appropriations work, where progress is overdue and at least some risk of being derailed remains.

Most notably, a recurring fight over Trump’s U.S.-Mexico border fence and immigrant detention prac-

tices is making it difficult for House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., to make progress on a broader, full-year \$1.4 trillion spending bill. That measure is needed to implement the terms of last summer’s hard-won budget agreement, which distributed budget increases to both the Pentagon and domestic agencies.

McConnell is personally invested in a successful budget outcome and both he and Pelosi have long histories on appropriations. A meeting on Tuesday among the bipartisan leadership of the Appropriations committees could produce an agreement on the stopgap measure – but efforts to smooth agreement on wall funding aren’t going nearly as well.

The other top issue is a legislative update to the landmark North American Free Trade Agreement, which is especially sought by Trump’s GOP allies and the party’s Main Street supporters.

Pelosi is the key figure on trade, which is always a tricky issue for Democrats, even if the politics of the new United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement are nowhere nearly as divisive as NAFTA was 26 years ago.

Passage of NAFTA in 1993 badly split House Democrats, but Pelosi, who represents the Port of San Francisco, voted “aye,” as did Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md., and powerful Ways and Means Committee Chairman Richard Neal, D-Mass.

Neal is leading a working group on the measure and says the group is “on the 5-yard line” and the optimistic take is that he and Pelosi will bring USMCA in for an easy landing.

The trade updates are gen-

erally seen as an improvement over NAFTA, whose provisions enforcing Mexican labor and environmental rules are considered inadequate by many Democrats. The selling points for the new pact are that it updates NAFTA for the 21st century with hard-won provisions on digital trade, intellectual property, financial services and agriculture trade.

Still, any impeachment-related delays could tax patience and thrust politically freighted issues like the border wall and the updated U.S. trade pact directly into the heat of the presidential primary campaign.

On spending, Trump is a wild card as usual. He singlehandedly drove the 35-day partial shutdown that spanned the changeover between GOP and Democratic control of the House last winter. He has struggled to win much wall funding from Congress, where lawmakers in both parties have other designs for the money.

Trump has had more success in exploiting his transfer powers to siphon money from Pentagon anti-drug and military base construction accounts toward the wall, and construction is finally beginning on the new segments he has long promised.

Trump could easily spin a successful wall narrative without much more in new appropriations. Simply funding the government on autopilot – though hardly anyone is advocating that – would give him perhaps \$6 billion more this year.

A battle over Trump’s powers to transfer military funding to wall building also has stalled an annual military policy bill that has become law for 58 years in a row.

Trump’s anger at impeach-

ment, his poisonous relationship with Pelosi, and his unpredictability and volatility are red flags for optimists. But the forces favoring an agreement are powerful, and McConnell – a top force behind the July budget pact – appears ready to get engaged more actively.

Capitol Hill veterans say hardliners on both sides – including House progressives and White House budget chief Russell Vought – are an impediment to the kind of split-the-differences agreement that the current balance of power can produce.

And there is still time for action if the momentum stalls, even if the odds get more dicey in a presidential election year.

One of the benefits of limiting the duration of the upcoming stopgap spending bill, known as a continuing resolution or CR, is that it means another is needed before Congress adjourns for the year.

Any December stopgap measure could also provide a way to ship some unfinished business on taxes, health care and pensions to Trump’s desk as part of a must-pass package. Top lawmakers hope that a full-year spending bill would serve the same purpose but acknowledge there are considerable obstacles.

“I think it would be a terrible mistake if we were still in a continuing resolution after the first of the year for a whole host of reasons,” said top Senate Appropriations Committee Democrat Patrick Leahy of Vermont, citing shifting signals from the White House as contributing to the delays. “It has been difficult with the White House because ... they have not always been consistent in what they want.”

Election vendors are ‘prime targets,’ need oversight

BY CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY
Associated Press

ATLANTA — The private companies that make voting equipment and build and maintain voter registration databases lack any meaningful federal oversight despite the crucial role they play in U.S. elections, leaving the nation’s electoral process vulnerable to attack, according to a new report.

The Brennan Center for Justice on Tuesday issued the report, which calls on Congress to establish a framework for federal certification of election vendors. The authors say this could be established as a voluntary program similar to how voting machines are certified, with incentives for state and local election officials to use vendors that have completed the process. It would include the establishment of federal standards and the ability for federal officials to monitor compliance and address any violations.

The report’s co-author Lawrence Norden acknowledged it was too late for any of this to happen in time for the 2020 presidential election.

“Even if (Congress) had the will, it couldn’t be passed in time,” said Norden, director of the Election Reform Program at the Brennan Center. “This is another security vulnerability that Congress hasn’t addressed.”

Norden said congressional inaction has increased the pressure on state and local election officials to secure their voting systems and have measures in place should something go wrong.

Although Congress sent \$380 million to states last year for election security, Norden said it was a “drop in the bucket” of what is needed as state and local election officials look to fund the replacement of outdated and insecure voting systems, increase cybersecurity personnel and add security upgrades.

The Brennan Center, which is based at New York University School of Law, said the most logical agency to handle federal oversight of election vendors would be the U.S. Election Assistance Commission. But that agency has been hobbled in recent years by reduced federal funding and leadership vacancies.

Although two commissioners were added this year, the agency is searching for a new executive director and general counsel.

The report acknowledges the commission does not have the authority that would allow it to certify election vendors. But the commission could take steps through its existing certification program for voting systems to ask vendors to provide details on cybersecurity practices and ownership information, according to the report. There have been concerns about foreign ownership of election companies operating in the United States.

“Private vendors’ central role in American elections makes them prime targets for adversaries,” the report said. “Yet it is impossible to assess the precise level of risk associated with ven-

dors or how that risk impacts election security.”

The report notes that just three companies provide more than 80 percent of voting systems in the U.S. and that other systems like voter registration databases and electronic pollbooks are also supplied and, in some case, maintained by vendors.

A report by The Associated Press last year found the leading voting-related companies had long skimped on security in favor of convenience and operate under a shroud of financial and operational secrecy despite their critical role in elections.

Federal officials have sought to boost communications and information sharing through the formation of a group that brings together representatives of the Department of Homeland Security and election vendors. This includes the major firms of Election Systems and Software, Dominion Voting Systems and Hart InterCivic.

There are also efforts to develop a program that would allow authorized security researchers access to election equipment so vulnerabilities within election systems can be identified and addressed. The industry, historically opposed to such outside reviews, has signaled a willingness to explore this. All the major firms have sought to reassure the public and election officials that it takes security seriously, but experts say it’s difficult to confirm given the limited visibility into their operations.

A spokeswoman for Elec-

tion Systems and Software said the company “fully supports” additional oversight and increased security testing of elections equipment, adding the company has submitted its equipment to testing by independent security researchers.

“ES&S agrees that all vendors should be held accountable for following best practices for all aspects of security, as ES&S does, and agrees that vendors should be American owned and operated, as ES&S is,” said spokeswoman Katina Granger.

The report noted that other industries also viewed as critical to national security, such as defense contractors, face substantial oversight and must comply with various requirements.

Norden said much of the focus within election security has been on the machines and how best to secure them but critical questions remain about how secure the vendors themselves are. He noted that former special counsel Robert Mueller described in his report how Russian agents in 2016 targeted employees of a voting technology company and installed malware on the company’s network. Details on the extent of the breach have not been made public.

“Vendors are responsible for election security in a way that folks probably don’t understand,” Norden said. “When we talk about election security, we talk about what election officials are doing, but we’ve left this big part of the puzzle out of the discussion.”

speak up

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
http://coats.senate.gov/contact

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
http://braun.senate.gov/

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski R-District 2
419 Cannon House
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. David Wolkins, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

letters guidelines

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 123 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplainealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

inspiration corner

Daily scripture

Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matthew 5:11-12

Bloomberg is no better choice than the rest of the Democratic candidates

With former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg possibly entering the presidential race, some Never Trumpers nervous about the Democrats' leftward shift might feel like they have a candidate they can now support. They shouldn't. Bloomberg was a Republican-in-name-only mayor who governed as a freedom-suppressing authoritarian.

Bloomberg has done nothing more than file for the Alabama Democratic primary election and he's already six points ahead of President Donald Trump, 43-37, in a hypothetical general election matchup, according to Morning Consult/Politico poll. But some Democratic candidates have expressed their opposition to his candidacy. He's too rich. He's too late. He will let the party down.

We're also have problems with him. But not the same ones.

Bloomberg governed the five boroughs for a dozen years as if he were making household rules for his pre-teen children. There would be no Big Gulp-sized sugary soft drinks, no trans fats, and every calorie had to be counted. A "Complete List of Everything Banned by Mayor Michael Bloomberg" compiled

by Gizmodo includes: cars in Times Square, high sodium levels in processed foods, Styrofoam for single-use food packaging, cabs that aren't fuel efficient, loud headphones, and cell phones in schools.

Some of the bans were proposed or merely suggested. But they still indicate a prohibitionist mind-set.

The "Republican" mayor is also an enemy of Second Amendment rights. Under his watch, a Manhattan store was even fined \$60,000 by the city's Department of Consumer Affairs for selling lighters that looked like small pistols.

Writing for the Reason Foundation, which declared Bloomberg one of its 45 Enemies of Freedom, Scott Shackford says the potential White House occupant "Is No Defender of the Constitution."

"Bloomberg is the archetype of the 'Nanny knows best' authoritarian who will happily deprive you of your rights and your freedoms in the name of protecting you," Shackford said a little more than a year ago, after Bloomberg changed his party affiliation to Democrat.

Bloomberg's resume is also darkened by his full-on belief in the global warming narrative. His dedi-

cation to it has placed him in good standing with the United Nations, which named him its special envoy for climate action last year, after four years as its U.S. special envoy for cities and climate change. With no concern about the practical impacts of his proposals, the climate warrior wants to close every coal plant in the country, believes he has a better idea than the New Green Deal though he agrees with its concept, and said last year that "any candidate for federal office better darn well have a plan to deal with the problem that the Trump science advisers say could basically end this world."

Yes, it does sound like he's setting up a justification for the use political power to implement whatever climate policies he believes are for the good of all, doesn't it?

Whatever moderate positions Bloomberg held as mayor will quickly vanish should he decide to join the presidential race. If they don't, then his candidacy will be disappeared by a party that is now listing so far to port that it's surely nearing a tipping point.

This editorial was first published in Issues & Insights.

Retirement musings, part two

I had not planned on covering the same topic for two columns in a row, but here we are. Let's call this one, "Retirement musings, part two."

Leo Morris



That's what happens when you have time to fill. Your mind tends to wander, and sometimes it lands in a spot you've already been to.

My sister is coming up on that age when she's thinking about being a woman of leisure, and she wants to spend her time doing something more fulfilling than vegetating in front of the TV set.

She's starting to make practice runs at various pursuits. Her latest involves pulling strands of fabric together into something useful. It's either knitting or crochet - I forget which is which, but one uses a single hook, and the other uses a couple of needles. She is good at one and having trouble with the other and frets over whether it's worth the trouble to master both.

My advice would be no. Ignore the one vexing you and stick with the one you enjoy, even to the point of obsession. Having fun is not supposed to be hard work.

I speak from experience. Looking back, I realize I have sampled numerous avocations, a string of them one after the other. (Calling them "hobbies" would make them seem more frivolous than I think they were.) I would pursue each furiously and single-mindedly until I got tired of it and/or something more diverting caught my attention.

Pool. Bowling. Racquetball. Videotaping. Multiple-track recording. Poker. Experimental cooking. My obsession usually lasted until I got pretty good, but boredom usually set in before I got even close to great.

I might have become an excellent chef. At one point, I had more than 100 cookbooks, and I ambled over to the bargain section for another one or two with every trip to the bookstore. Poring over recipes was like my porn. But a rainstorm and a leaky roof destroyed most of the collection, and I drifted away from the kitchen.

My latest diversion, discovered much too late in life, is bridge. Unlike poker, which required psychological warfare against other players in order to get to a level above that which skill alone could achieve, bridge is almost entirely about the logical subtleties of mental calculation. It's fairly easy to learn, but its intricacies can take a lifetime to conquer. I wish I had encountered it at a much younger age.

I'm also returning to the joys of watching pro football, the only sport I've been able to tolerate as a spectator, except for an occasional taste of baseball, thanks to my father's love of the Cincinnati Reds, and a love-hate relationship with the IU Hoosiers that lasted until Bobby Knight got fired.

I boycotted the NFL for a year because of the league's pusillanimity in dealing with all that take-a-knee-for-the-anthem nonsense.

That made me feel smugly anti-progressive until I realized I was letting the political ugliness of half-wits spoil my vicarious amusement.

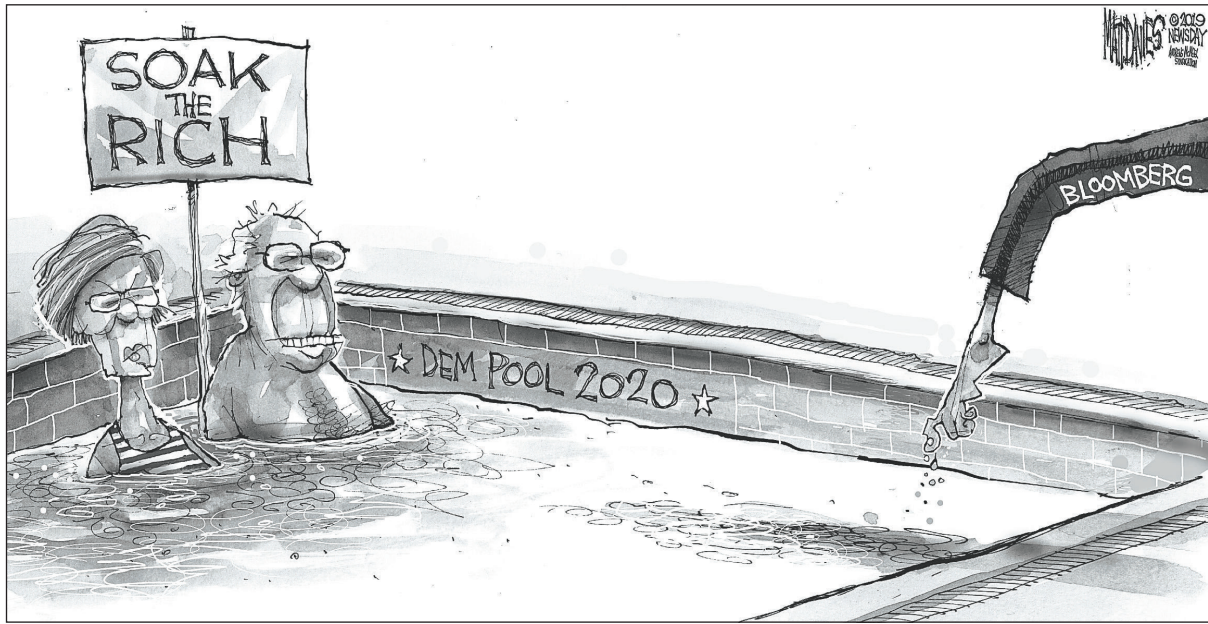
That's the second piece of advice I would give my sister: Don't let others influence the way you decide to relax and unwind. No matter what you choose, there will be somebody who will declare it a waste of time and ask, condescendingly, if you can't find something more worthwhile to dedicate yourself to.

It will not occur to them to accept that they, too, have pursuits others would find silly and pointless.

Except for those who plan to devote every waking moment of retirement searching for cancer's cure or exploring Aristotle in the original Greek, we all need to use some of our time for pure and simple self-indulgent delight.

You choose your waste of time, and I'll choose mine, even if it involves suffering through the Colts blowing another season or building a bridge to nowhere.

Leo Morris, columnist for The Indiana Policy Review, is winner of the Hoosier Press Association's award for Best Editorial Writer. Morris, as opinion editor of the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel, was named a finalist in editorial writing by the Pulitzer Prize committee. Contact him at leoedits@yahoo.com.



Tribalistic party identity is all Trump's defenders have left

If President Trump is impeached by the House without the vote of a single Republican, you know what? He'll still be impeached, and for good reason.

Eugene Robinson



The same will be true if every Republican senator votes to acquit him. Partisan GOP solidarity might keep Trump in office - for another year - but it neither changes the facts as we know them nor absolves Congress of its constitutional responsibility. A decision by Republicans to put party loyalty ahead of the national interest cannot be allowed to derail this necessary process.

Would a "partisan" impeachment divide the country? If you haven't noticed, the nation is pretty divided already. It's understandable to worry about the reaction of the 45 percent of Americans who, according to the FiveThirtyEight.com average of polls, oppose impeachment and removal. But what about the 47.2 percent who support it?

I put the word partisan in quotes because the House, in constitutional terms, is acting not as "House Democrats" but as the House itself. The fact that the Democratic Party holds the majority does not absolve Speaker Nancy Pelosi or any other House member of the duty to hold Trump accountable for "Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors." If Trump grossly abused his power and committed bribery in his dealings with Ukraine, as evidence strongly indicates, the House has no choice.

Tribalistic party identity is basically all the president's defenders have left.

They complained that the House

had not taken a formal vote to proceed with impeachment ... but then the House held such a vote. They complained that the House impeachment investigators were taking depositions of witnesses in secret ... but Republican committee members already had access to those hearings. They complained that transcripts of those interviews had not been released ... but now they are being released, and one of the loudest complainers, Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., says he will refuse to read them. They complained that there had been no public testimony that would allow the American people to judge for themselves ... but a public phase of the House investigation is beginning this week, with the first witnesses scheduled to appear Wednesday.

The latest diversionary Republican complaint is that the whole process is somehow illegitimate unless the anonymous whistleblower who brought the Ukraine scandal to light is made to testify publicly.

The problem with this contention is that the whistleblower's second-hand suspicions have long since been superseded by first-hand sources and documents, including the rough transcript of the phone call between Trump and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky that was released by the White House. Republicans are basically arguing that an alleged arsonist, caught with a gas can in one hand and matches in the other, cannot be fairly tried without testimony from the passerby who saw a building on fire and called 911.

You will note that all of the above arguments have to do with process, not substance. Evidence clearly indicates that Trump conditioned official acts - release of nearly \$400 million in military aid and an invita-

tion to the White House - on a commitment by Zelensky to meddle in the 2020 U.S. election. Republican members of Congress used to deny there was any quid pro quo, which in this case is Latin for bribery. Now they say there was but it doesn't rise to an impeachable offense.

Assuming no exculpatory evidence surfaces, articles of impeachment will surely be drafted and brought to the House floor. I hope that some Republicans - perhaps a number of the 20 who have announced they are retiring - vote conscience over party. But if the entire GOP caucus puts party before duty, so be it. Democrats and the lone independent congressman (former Republican Justin Amash of Michigan) will have honored their oath to defend the Constitution.

Then would come a trial in the Senate. With the exception of Graham and a few others, most Republican senators are taking the position that since they are potential jurors who may be called to sit in judgment of Trump, it would be improper for them to comment. I know for a fact that many of them are fully aware of how dangerously unfit Trump is to serve as president. I also know that they greatly fear his wrath. Unless public airing of the evidence causes Trump to lose support among the GOP rank-and-file - which is possible but far from guaranteed - the Senate has to be considered highly unlikely to vote for removal.

But that is not an outcome to fear. If Republicans in Congress fail to do their job, voters will have to do it for them. This is not a moment to calculate the political odds. It's a moment to do the right thing.

Eugene Robinson's email address is eugene.robinson@washpost.com.

Southwood High School class of 1964 holds reunion

Thirty-six classmates attended along with 22 guests

STAFF REPORT
The Southwood High School class of 1964 held their 55-year class reunion on Saturday, Oct. 26 at the Honeywell Center, according to a press release.

There were 121 classmates. Twenty-nine are deceased. Thirty-six classmates attended along with 22 guests.

Guests who attended, but were not photographed were Sharon Long Marcotte and Dorwin Birt.



REUNION: Left to right: Front row: Nancy Kolb, Sharon Hummer Gray, Kathy Fites Peas, Joann Walker Irons, Paulette Snyder Hettmansperber, Sue Cooper Harmon, Mary Ann Shellhamer Stroeh and Cheryl Guenin Lewis. Second row: Sherry Stout Brock, Jerry Bowman, Nannette Bechrol Bailey, Phyllis Bussett Hall, Carol Waggoner Cox, Nancy Kaufmann Borgmann, Max Cox and Jane Harper Ridgeway. Third row: Dan Kendall, Kent Fites, Jim McCoy, Terry Peas, Larry Benedict, James Nicley, Ron Rife and Steve Winterowd. Fourth row: Sam Faust, Jim Bakehorn, Bryan Brooks, Dick Kendall, Bill Stouffer, Stan Reed, Robert Benner, Dale Silvers, Mike Mendenhall and Bill Lewis.

2020 Indiana Missing Children’s Day poster contest announced

The deadline to submit entries is Feb. 7, 2020

STAFF REPORT
The Indiana State Police (ISP) will once again partner again in 2020 with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) in promoting the National Missing Children’s Day Poster Contest, according to a press release.

In 1983, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed May 25 as National Missing Children’s Day.

“This day is dedicated to encouraging parents, guardians, caregivers and all concerned individuals with the well-being of children to make child safety a priority,” stated the release. “It serves as a reminder to continue our efforts to reunite missing children with their families and loved ones. It also serves as an occasion to honor those who are dedicated to this very noble cause.”

The National Missing Children’s Poster Contest provides an opportunity for schools, law enforcement, and parents and guardians to discuss and promote child safety.

The state winner will receive a national award certificate from the DOJ and their poster will be selected to go to the national judging competition.

The national winner, along with his or her parents and teacher, and the state manager will be invited to Washington, D.C. to participate in the DOJ’s National Missing Children’s Day ceremony.

Some important facts about the contest:

- There is no limit to the number of posters a school can submit.
- Only one poster per

student is allowed for submission.

- Students who submit posters must be in the fifth grade.

■ Artwork should reflect the theme, “Bringing Our Missing Children Home.” This phrase must appear somewhere on the poster.

■ The theme may be depicted in the artwork through one or a combination of illustrations and can be created using media such as acrylics, watercolor, pencils, charcoal, magic markers, spray paint, crayons and pastels. Digitally produced images, collages, cut-outs and stamping will not be eligible for consideration.

■ The finished poster must measure 8 inches by 14 inches.

■ The poster must be submitted with a completed application, which includes a description of the poster and a brief biography of the artist.

■ All poster contest rules can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/shhgoe2>.

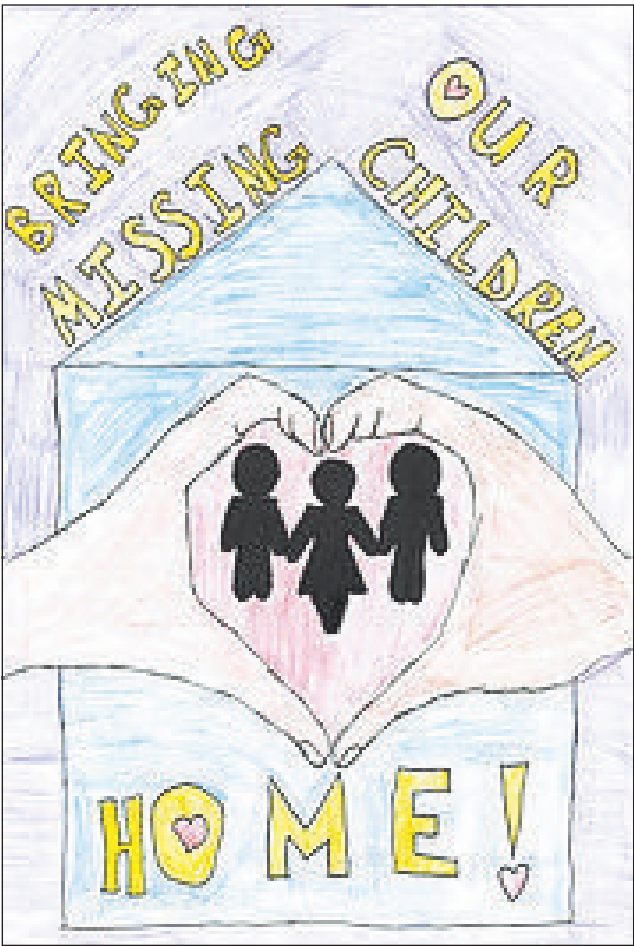
The deadline for submissions from participating organizations to be received by state manager Torie Harris is Feb. 7, 2020. Submissions are to be sent to Indiana State Police Clearinghouse, c/o Torie Harris, 100 N. Senate Ave. N340, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

To learn more about the National Missing Children’s Day Poster contest visit <https://www.ojjdp.gov/missingchildrensday>.

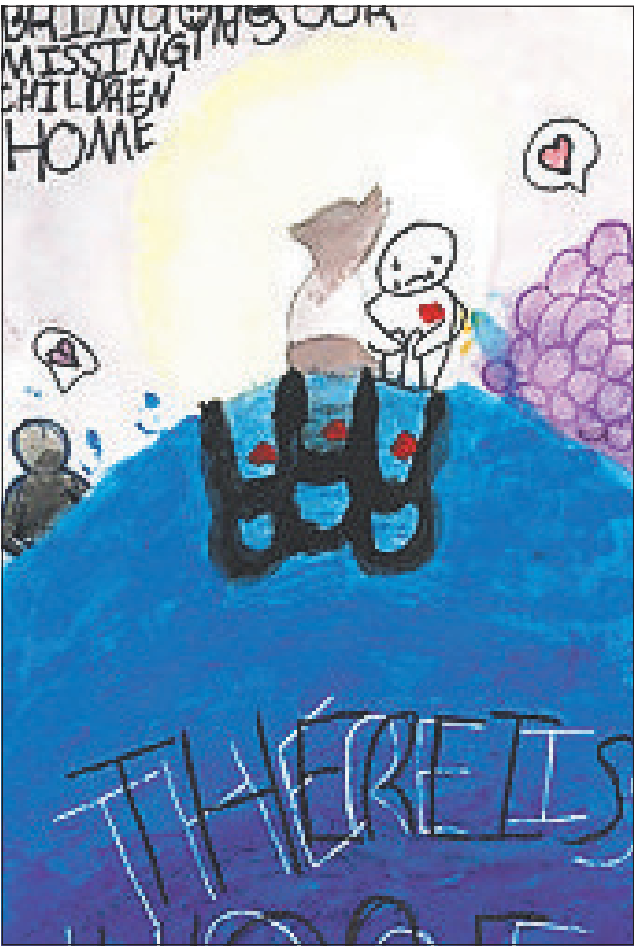
If ever a child goes missing, contact your local police department or dial 911. It is also a good idea to keep an updated picture or cellphone image, and a DNA sample from your child. For more safety and prevention tips please visit <http://www.in.gov/amberalert/2335.htm>.



2019 INDIANA SECOND RUNNER UP: This is the third place entry from Wes-Del Elementary School student Carter Flynn of Gaston.



2019 INDIANA WINNER: This is the first place independent submission from Three Creeks Elementary School student Maycee DeBolt of Lowell.



2019 INDIANA RUNNER UP: This is the second place entry from Wes-Del Elementary School student Kylynn New of Gaston.

Two local students inducted into American Christian Honor Society

Ceremony for Emmanuel Christian School held recently

STAFF REPORT
Emmanuel Christian School welcomed two new students, Raelyn Coyne and Riley Miller to the American Christian Honor Society in a recent induction ceremony, according to a press release.

“This is the highest honor that Emmanuel Christian School gives out to their students,” stated the release.

The American Christian Honor Society is a nationally recognized honor society that is formed under the American Association for Christian Schools.

Emmanuel is a member of Chapter 411 of the American Christian Honor Society.

“They set guidelines for admission into the society and are very strict when it comes to qualifications,” stated the release. “Being an honor society, the group focuses on grades.”

There is a minimum of a 3.6 GPA to even be considered for the society.

“Above and beyond the grades though, the American Christian Honor Society looks at the individual and their life outside of the classroom, as well,” stated the release.

Students are chosen for the honor based on four established criteria: academics, Christian leadership, Christian character and Christian service.



MEMBERS: The members in the front row, left to right are: Raelyn Coyne, new member; and Ellie Daniel. The members in the back row, left to right are: Preston Ritzema; JC Frank; Riley Miller, new member; and Jack Niccum.

Little Rock teachers to go on strike over district’s control

BY ANDREW DEMILLO
Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Little Rock teachers will go on strike for one day this week over an Arkansas panel’s decision to strip their collective bargaining power and complaints about state control of the 23,000-student district, union officials said Monday.

The strike that will take place Thursday will be only the second time teachers have walked out of the job in Little Rock history. The Little Rock Education Association’s announcement comes after the state Board of Education in October voted to no longer recognize the union when the contract expired Oct. 31.

The union has been calling for the state to give them back their bargaining power. Before the contract ended on Oct. 31, the Little Rock School District had been the only one in Arkansas where a teachers union had collective bargaining power. But union leaders said Thursday’s strike was focused more broadly on returning full local control to the district.

Arkansas has run Little Rock’s schools since the state board took over the district in January 2015 because of low test scores at several schools. The state board has voted to put the district under a local board that will be elected in November 2020, but with

limits on its authority. The strike will occur the day the state panel is expected to vote on establishing the zones for the new local board.

“As educators, we would rather be in the classroom with our students, not on the picket line,” Teresa Knapp Gordon, the union’s president, said at a news conference outside Little Rock Central High School. “However, this community and the passionate, dedicated educators of this district will do what is necessary to protect the futures of our students.”

While the union billed it as a one-day strike, Gordon left open the possibility of it stretching beyond Thursday if the panel doesn’t return full local control.

“No options are off the table at this point,” she said.

The only other teachers strike in the district was in 1987, when Little Rock students missed six days of school before a new two-year contract was approved.

Little Rock Superintendent Michael Poore said the district’s schools will remain open and buses will continue to run, though some classes may have to be combined. In anticipation of the strike, school officials have been lining up hundreds of substitute teachers and said between 250 and 300 district and state employees can also work as educators.

High school screenwriting contest now open

Deadline for submissions is Jan. 5, 2020

STAFF REPORT
Pigasus Pictures, the Indiana-based film company behind feature films, “The

Good Catholic,” “Ms. White Light” and “The Miseducation of Bindu,” has a “major announcement” for Indiana high school students,” according to a press release.

For the fourth year running, Pigasus is hosting its annual high school short screenplay competition, Project Pigasus. “This is no ordinary

contest, however, as the winning screenplay is fully produced by the professional production company alongside students in their hometown,” stated the release.

For this competition, Hoosier high schoolers should submit a 12-page screenplay, a one-page description of their film idea and a short

intro video to www.projectpigasus.org.

The submission deadline is Jan. 5, 2020.

Production of the film will take place over three days near the end of the 2019-2020 school year. The finished film will be screened in Indiana theaters, submitted to film festivals across the

country and subsequently made available for online streaming. Submissions are currently open to any high school student in the state of Indiana.

“For the last several years, the producers at Pigasus have proven their dedication to growing the entertainment industry in Indiana,” stated

the release.

They have produced three full-length feature films, with several more on the horizon, three full-scale short films, have lobbied the state legislature for favorable filmmaking tax credits and opened a state of the art film and theatre Academy in Bloomington.



Colorado's live mascot Ralphie V to retire

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — Colorado's live buffalo mascot Ralphie V will retire after 12 seasons of roaming the field. The university said Tuesday that Ralphie, who turned 13 in October, hasn't been showing the same consistency as she has in prior seasons. She wasn't consistently responding to her handler's cues, which is why she didn't run before the game and at halftime against Southern California and Stanford. Ralphie V will make her final appearance on Nov. 23 against Washington but will not run. She will live on a ranch like Colorado's previous retired buffaloes have done. Ralphie program manager John Graves and his staff have been preparing candidates to become Ralphie VI for a while. This is the 53rd season a live Buffalo has led the team onto the field.

Packers' Bratkowski, Bart Starr's backup, dies at age 88

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — The Green Bay Packers say Zeke Bratkowski, the quarterback who backed up Bart Starr during the team's 1960s dynasty, has died at his Florida home. He was 88. The Packers Hall of Famer was a quarterback in Green Bay from 1963-1968 and again in 1971. One of Bratkowski's most notable performances in relief of an injured Starr came in 1965, a 13-10 overtime playoff win over the Baltimore Colts that sent the Packers to the title game against Cleveland. They beat the Browns for what would be the first of three straight championship seasons, and Bratkowski played briefly in both Super Bowl wins in the two years that followed. Bratkowski was a star at the University of Georgia before starting his career with the Chicago Bears.

Submit your news

The Plain Dealer is accepting all news, varsity, junior varsity, middle school, elementary school and non-school affiliated recreational sports. To get a brief in the newspaper, please provide final score and any highlights pertaining to the event, including first and last names of participants. Reports must be received by 3:00 p.m. to make it in the following day's edition. Items may be: E-mailed to sports@wabashplaindealer.com. Called into 260-225-4523 after 11 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Please do not leave complete results on voice mail. Mailed into Plain Dealer, 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992. Organizations or individuals e-mailing materials should call the sports department to ensure the information was received. The Plain Dealer reserves the right to edit material for length, clarity and/or style, and does not guarantee publication.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL



TRC: Northfield's Addi Baker (right) drives past a Mississinewa opponent during last week's contest.

TRC, local rivalries to take place on hardwood

BY JACOB RUDE
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

Despite being just the second week of the season, Mother Nature has already had a say in matters, delaying a handful of games to start the week. The week does still present the first look at Three Rivers Conference action in Wabash County.

Wabash (1-0) - at Mississinewa, 11/14, 7:30 p.m.; vs. Marion, 11/16, 7:30 p.m.

The Apaches were dominant in their season-opener

on the road and will have one more road contest before their home opener. Originally scheduled for Friday, Wabash's contest against Mississinewa was moved to Thursday with the Indians football team advancing to the regional leading to a rescheduling. The match-up will present Wabash with a tall task in a literal sense with Mississinewa senior Caily Bolser coming off a strong start to the season. Bolser recorded a triple-double in Mississinewa's season-opening upset of Northfield, finishing the

night with 20 points, 14 rebounds and 12 blocks in the win. Unlike the Norse, Wabash has the size to match-up with Bolser as the duo of Mariah Wyatt and Alivia Short each recorded double-doubles in the Apaches' 75-32 win over Elwood. Matters will only get more difficult in the Wabash home opener as Maribon and Rashaya Kyle visit. Kyle, a Purdue commit, is ranked as a top-40 recruit nationally by ESPN for the Class of 2020. In the Giants' season-opener, Kyle finished with 19 points and 19 rebounds.

Southwood (1-0) - versus Pioneer, 11/14, 7:30 p.m.; at Huntington North, 11/16, 7:30 p.m.

Originally scheduled to take place on Tuesday, Southwood's second home game of the season against Pioneer was postponed to Thursday due to weather. The two will instead meet on Thursday with Southwood eyeing a 2-0 start. While the Knights lost to Pioneer handily last season, 58-36, Southwood had won

See TRC / Page B2

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

McBride takes on Irish player development role

BY DOUG FEINBERG
AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK — Kayla McBride was sitting and watching shootaround before Notre Dame's first game of the season against Fordham last week. She admitted she was nervous even though her playing days for Muffet McGraw and the Irish are over. The former Notre Dame great is back on campus this winter as a player development program manager — a new position created this season. "I'm really excited to be working with the team," McBride said. "It gives me a

taste of what coaching may be like if it's something that I may want to do in the future." McGraw said she approached McBride over the summer when she saw her star guard playing with the Las Vegas Aces in Chicago. McGraw said that Notre Dame had been offered a small stipend for an internship by the Women's Sports Foundation for a position that she thought McBride would be perfect for. The Hall of Fame coach said that the internship didn't work out the way it was worded, so she went to her bosses

at Notre Dame and asked if they could still hire McBride. They agreed. The Notre Dame coach made an impassioned speech at the Final Four last April about how women need to be hired in women's basketball. This would be the perfect opportunity by bringing back McBride. McGraw hopes this could be something that other teams could do. "I think it's a fantastic idea, they are floating it in the NCAAs," she said. "Great chance to keep women in the game. Former student-athletes who want to get

into coaching. It's an entry level spot, but we're getting some resistance from the NCAA because of the financial component. We're still working on it." McBride heard McGraw's speech last spring and happy to be back on campus. "It means everything. Knowing she has confidence in the women she put through here. She built a great foundation here and we can uphold that. We want to be able to keep that going," McBride said. "Having former players is a different

See IRISH / Page B2

GOLF

Postseason golf about entertainment, not about fair

BY DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

Scott McCarron has been in position for a \$1 million payoff twice in his career under vastly different circumstances. The first occasion was in 2002 in the final of the Match Play Championship at La Costa when he stood over an 8-foot putt to extend the 36-hole match against Kevin Sutherland and turned away in shock when it caught the left lip. The other was Sunday, when he was in the club-

house at Phoenix Country Club, feeling more stress than if he were playing. He thought the \$1 million bonus for the Charles Schwab Cup was gone when Retief Goosen stood over a 4-foot birdie putt to win, only to miss. He was in shock when Jeff Maggert holed out from 123 yards for eagle to win the playoff and hand the season points race on the PGA Tour Champions to McCarron. "One of the most incredible shots that has ever affected me that I didn't hit," McCarron said.

It was the second straight year that the great shots belonged to the last guy on the course while the big check belonged to the guy watching from the clubhouse. Vijay Singh's victory in 2018 gave the Schwab Cup to Bernhard Langer. This is what the PGA Tour was trying to avoid when it made a radical change to the FedEx Cup finale. The tour didn't want another scene like Justin Thomas trying to celebrate a \$10 million bonus while stewing inside over finish-

ing second in the 2017 Tour Championship to Xander Schauffele, or the awkward ceremony in 2009 when Tiger Woods became the first player to capture the FedEx Cup twice — after finishing second to Phil Mickelson at East Lake. "I'm sure I would probably be more happy tomorrow than I am right now," Woods said. So it switched to a format that gave a head start based on a player's position in the standings — 10-under par for Thomas as the No. 1 seed, even par for the last

MLB

Mets' Alonso, Astros' Álvarez named Rookies of the Year

BY JAKE SEINER
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — Young sluggers known for their prodigious power, Pete Alonso and Yordan Álvarez knocked the Rookie of the Year voting out of the park. In a rarity for the major league home run leader, Alonso didn't land the biggest blow. Alonso, a star first baseman with the New York Mets, got 29 of 30 first-place votes for NL Rookie of the Year. Braves right-hander Mike Soroka got the other first-place vote and finished second in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America revealed Monday night. "To just win the award, doesn't matter if it's unanimous or not," Alonso said. "It's still such a blessing." Álvarez, a hulking designated hitter from the Houston Astros, earned all 30 first-place votes to become the 24th unanimous selection since the award was introduced in 1949. "I was really not expecting it," Álvarez said through a translator. The 24-year-old Alonso led the majors with 53 homers, one better than Yankees slugger Aaron Judge's rookie record from 2017. "Polar Bear" Pete became the face of baseball in Flushing, beloved for his power, personality and philanthropy. He's the sixth Met to win the award and first since teammate Jacob deGrom in 2014. Padres shortstop Fernando Tatis Jr. was third in NL balloting. The only voter to place Soroka ahead of Alonso was Andrew Baggarly of The Athletic. Alonso was the only NL player named on every ballot. Álvarez, a 22-year-old from Cuba, played 87 games after debuting in June, fewest by any position player to win AL Rookie of the Year. He hit 27 homers, batted .313, drove in 78 and had a 1.067 OPS for the pennant-winning Astros. He struggled at times in the postseason, but that was after voting had concluded. "My whole family was telling me I would be the winner of the award," Álvarez said. "And once I was selected as the winner, I was very excited." He's the third Houston player to win, following teammate Carlos Correa in 2015 and Hall of Famer Jeff Bagwell in 1991. Álvarez easily beat out the other AL finalists, with Orioles left-hander John Means second and Rays infielder

NFL

Cowboys build model by paying line, Pats win another way

BY SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Pro Football Writer

Travis Frederick didn't fully understand the business of football when the Dallas Cowboys drafted their center six years ago and made him an instant starter.

Eventually, the four-time Pro Bowler saw what Dallas was trying to build by using first-round picks on offensive linemen three times in four drafts after never having taken a blocker that high in 22 years under owner and general manager Jerry Jones.

The Cowboys have become consistent winners behind the line with the NFL's highest salary cap figure. While Dallas isn't the only example of a club benefiting from a heavy investment up front, the New England Patriots are several notches higher than Dallas as an elite team with a more frugal approach.

"You'll never see your skill live up to its potential if you're not good on the offensive and defensive lines," Cowboys coach Jason Garrett said. "That's just something I always believed in."

After Garrett took over midsea-

son in 2010 with an aging line, the Cowboys' first pick in the next draft was tackle Tyron Smith ninth overall. Frederick went late in the first round in 2013, and guard Zack Martin in the middle of the opening round a year later.

Dallas hit on all three choices, and therefore had to pay each. That's why the Cowboys top the list of salary cap numbers for offensive lines at \$53 million, according to overthecap.com.

Since adding Martin to complete the core of the Dallas front, the Cowboys have made the playoffs three times in five seasons — including both years that Ezekiel Elliott won rushing titles.

While Dallas hasn't made the long postseason run that has eluded the franchise since the last of five championships nearly 25 years ago, the two playoff victories in the past five seasons are one more than the Cowboys had the previous 17 years.

"I think we take pride in the group that we put together," Frederick said. "It didn't come down to the people and the picks for us. We have no control over it. It's not like

we as a group have chosen the people that have come in. It's that we as a group have taken the people that have come in and tried to build a group with a standard that we're proud of."

The Patriots are on the verge of a 19th straight winning season despite ranking near the bottom of the league in spending on the offensive line at \$23.8 million. Protecting Tom Brady has been the most important thing on the way to six Super Bowl titles because the running game has generally been secondary.

Two years ago, New England left tackle Nate Solder was perhaps the most-coveted left tackle in free agency, and the Patriots let him go at age 29 and two years removed from a torn biceps. Solder hasn't been the same for the New York Giants, who are 7-19 since signing him.

There is only one lineman, right tackle Marcus Cannon, among the top 10 salary cap figures for the Patriots.

Baltimore, with the NFL's best running quarterback in MVP candidate Lamar Jackson, has the highest-rated line in the NFL, ac-

cording to Pro Football Focus, while ranking 27th — two spots ahead of the Patriots — in cap spending. Three linemen are on rookie deals, and another is an undrafted free agent.

Oakland coach Jon Gruden has stressed building the offensive line ever since returning to the Raiders before last season. He used a first-round pick to draft left tackle Kolton Miller his first season and took another tackle, Brandon Parker, in the third round.

The Raiders then gave right tackle Trent Brown the richest deal ever for a lineman in free agency last March, signing him to a \$66 million, four-year deal. Oakland also added left guard Richie Incognito in free agency and gave center Rodney Hudson a \$33.75 million, three-year extension before the start of this season.

The moves have paid off as the Raiders have allowed a league-low 37 quarterback pressures through the first nine weeks, leading to a big rebound season from quarterback Derek Carr for a playoff contender.

"I'm a huge believer in build-

ing the offensive line, and you get around that group and watch what's going on and he is the quintessential glue player," general manager Mike Mayock said of Hudson. "We thought it was really important as we continue to develop this offensive line."

While left tackle has long been the highest-paid position because of protecting a QB's blind side, the value of guards has gone up in recent years.

The Cowboys' Martin has the highest annual average among guards after signing a six-year, \$84 million extension with \$40 million guaranteed in 2018. Over the past five years, the average annual salary cap value among the top five right guards has increased 65%.

Tennessee used a first-round pick to get Taylor Lewan in 2014 and made him the highest-paid left tackle at an average of \$16 million per season last year.

The Titans have made the playoffs just once in that span, winning a wild-card game in 2017, and Lewan is fourth in the NFL in penalties this season for a 5-5 team outside the postseason picture at the moment.

NFL

Tale of 2 left tackles: Taylor Lewan and Garrett Bolles

BY ARNIE STAPLETON

AP Pro Football Writer

DENVER — Just like Denver's Garrett Bolles, Tennessee's Taylor Lewan has been dogged by penalties all season, and the Titans' struggling left tackle did just what the Broncos' grabby left tackle did earlier this season: he went on a postgame rant about the flags in the locker room after a penalty-filled performance.

The difference was Lewan went off on himself instead of complaining about the calls.

"Before we even start this whole thing, any penalties are a (expletive) problem," Lewan began. "I am 100 percent at issue with that. It is not intentional. I do not mean to do it. My intentions are good. I am just trying to finish. And it is killing the team. ... I am completely screwing the team with the amount of penalties I have in these last, what, six games? ... It's horrible. I cannot get penalties. I am sorry. There is no need to ask me about it because I know I am an absolute liability when it comes to penalties."

Contrast that with what Bolles said after Denver's 16-14 loss to the Chicago Bears in Week 2, when he was flagged four times for holding and needed a police escort as he trudged off the field to catcalls from a frustrated fan base.

"It was frustrating. I've built a reputation for myself in this league of holding. I disagree with it, to be honest," Bolles said, adding he takes solace in knowing his coaches, including Hall of Famer Mike Munchak, his teammates and the front office all have his back. "I'm going to turn this around. That was just unfortunate that they keep coming after me."

Suggesting he was the victim in his career-long penalty problem — Bolles now has 42 infractions in 41 career starts — prompted Mark Schlereth, Orlando Franklin and Tyler Polumbus, three former Broncos O-linemen who are now broadcasters, to scold Bolles for either an astonishing lack of self-awareness or a disturbing lack of accountability.

And it led general manager John Elway, who drafted Bolles over Wisconsin's Ryan Ramsey in the first round of the 2017 draft, to ask if Bolles even

knew what constituted holding.

Lewan has his troubles. He was suspended by the NFL for the first month of the season for violating the league's policy on performance-enhancing substances and since his return, he's been whistled a team-high nine times in just six games — four false starts, three holds, one facemask and one unnecessary roughness.

Bolles has been flagged for 10 holds and one false start, but any Broncos plans to bench their fundamentally unsound tackle have been scuttled this season with right tackle Ja'Wuan James playing just 32 snaps because of a balky knee after signing a four-year contract in free agency that includes \$32 million in guarantees.

Former coach Vance Joseph and ex-offensive coordinator Munchak always stuck up for Bolles, and new coach Vic Fangio and his staff have, too, always mentioning that Bolles came to football later in life after starring in lacrosse and other sports.

Asked last week if he thought Bolles was playing with more confidence, Fangio said, "I think Garrett kind of plays with more confidence than you think and maybe than is warranted."

But that message, coming after a pair of penalties in a 24-19 win over the Cleveland Browns, was followed with this: "He didn't play too bad yesterday. Again, he's a young player still, especially in light of his limited background in football before he got here. It's our job to maximize and make sure we're doing everything possible to develop him. If the guy has talent, we wanted to maximize every opportunity to develop it."

Earlier this season, Fangio said the Broncos obviously needed to do a better job "explaining" proper technique to Bolles and he needed to do a better job of "listening to the explaining."

With swing tackle Elijah Wilkinson already filling in at right tackle for James, Fangio has steadfastly declined to even sit Bolles for a series or two if for no other reason than to see if that won't make him match the team's trust in him with a commitment to improve.

Instead, Bolles keeps starting and he keeps getting flagged, which often follows with him throwing his arms

up in protest of the officials, then a dismissive wave as if they're just picking on him again.

Bolles' infractions have cost the Broncos some 500 yards in field position over his career, and it's really come down to this: if Munchak can't fix his game, no one can.

WINNING WILSON

Russell Wilson made the most of his third chance in overtime Monday night, leading Seattle on the game-winning field goal drive that handed San Francisco its first loss of the season and improved his record in night games to 25-5-1, best all-time.

The 49ers (8-1) stopped Seattle's first drive in OT when Dre Greenlaw intercepted Wilson's pass inside the 5-yard line and returned it to midfield. But fill-in kicker Chase McLaughlin, signed last week when Robbie Gould injured his quadriceps in practice, missed badly to the left from 47 yards out after making all three tries in regulation, including a 47-yarder with 1 second remaining to tie it.

The Niners stopped Wilson on third-and-2 and got the ball back at their 20 with 1:45 left in overtime, but Jimmy Garoppolo threw three incompletions, burning just 14 seconds of clock time. The punt burned another 11, so Wilson got the ball back at his 36. He apologized to his teammates for letting them down before and implored them to go finish the job and capitalize on their third opportunity.

They did, with kicker Jason Myers hitting from 42 yards out after Wilson's 18-yard scramble on third-and-3.

FAIR CATCH

The Cowboys didn't give themselves a fair shake by having speedy Tavon Austin call for a fair catch in the closing seconds of their 28-24 loss to the Minnesota Vikings. There wasn't a defender within 15 yards and there was an open lane to the end zone down the left sideline when Austin signaled for the fair catch at midfield.

The Cowboys ended up doing nothing with the 17 seconds they saved by not taking time off during a runback, which would have at the very least gotten them in better position for a "Hail Mary" into the end zone.

NBA ANALYSIS

Walters' future in Miami is very unclear

BY TIM REYNOLDS

AP Basketball Writer

CHALLENGING CHALLENGES

Dion Walters leads the Miami Heat in suspensions and headlines this season.

And his future is very unclear.

Walters won't be with the Heat for at least nine more games — his 10-game suspension for repeated conduct deemed detrimental to the team started Friday when Miami visited the Los Angeles Lakers — and what happens from there will be anyone's guess.

He'll miss out on about \$835,000 in salary, raising his total missed through suspensions (he was also shunned from the season-opener) to about \$920,000 this season. That doesn't include a \$1.1 million roster bonus he could have gotten by playing in 70 games, a number that is now officially unattainable.

All told, this has cost him \$2 million and counting.

For someone making \$12.1 million this season alone, that doesn't sound so bad. The cost to his reputation hasn't been added into that figure yet.

When this suspension ends on Nov. 30, the 6-foot-4 guard will be allowed to resume workouts at the Heat facility. By then, the season will be about 25% complete. The rotation will probably be clear.

There won't be minutes waiting for him. And that will lead to the next problem, which is what got him suspended for the first time last month — he won't be happy with sitting.

He complained about minutes in the preseason, after he fell behind rookies like Tyler Herro and Kendrick Nunn in the Heat pecking order.

If he is not in the rotation or on the team, the Heat might not miss him.

The team talked about Walters' situation Monday before their workout, then went on with the day like nothing happened.

"We had a quick meeting before practice started," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "Once we got that behind us, just for clarification, we were able to focus on our team and getting better. ... Guys are working to get better at specific things."

Whatever happens in Miami will likely not be the end of Walters' NBA career.

He just 27 years old and has shown that he has enormous talent. His confidence level is absurd. He believes he's one of the best shooters on the planet.

But whatever happened in Phoenix or Los Angeles or somewhere in between on the flight Thursday night — whatever was in the cannabis-infused gummy or gummies that he took that led to a medical emergency — might have ended up being the last straw for him in Miami.

SOCCER

Ukrainian police looking for fans who racially abused Taison

KHARKIV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukrainian police want to identify and find about 20 Dynamo Kyiv fans as part of an investigation into racist abuse directed at Shakhtar Donetsk player Taison.

The Brazilian midfielder left the field in tears after reacting to the abuse in Sunday's game by showing an obscene gesture and kicking the ball in the direction of Dynamo's fans.

The referee took the players off briefly and then gave Taison a red card for his reaction once the game resumed. World players' union FIFPro and anti-discrimination campaigners have called for that card to be rescinded.

Police in the city of Kharkiv, where Shakhtar plays, said on Tuesday they

have opened criminal proceedings on allegations of "violation of citizens' equality" due to race, nationality, religion or disability.

Taison, who has played eight times for Brazil, said on Instagram on Sunday he "will never stay quiet after seeing such an inhuman and despicable act."

The Fare Network, which campaigns against discrimination in soccer, welcomed the police announcement and advised the Ukrainian soccer association to overturn Taison's red card.

"We welcome the police investigation and await the outcomes of action by the criminal justice system in Ukraine. But this should not exempt football authorities from doing their part," Fare spokesman Pavel Klymen-

ko said. "The UAF should immediately rescind the red card given to Taison. And it goes without saying the UAF should apply strong measures against the perpetrators."

FIFPro spokesman Alex Duff said the organization had joined the Ukrainian players' union in writing to the UAF "asking for Taison's red card to be overturned." FIFPro is also asking for an investigation into the fans' behavior and how match officials handled the situation.

FIFPro launched a similar campaign in Italy in 2017 when Ghanaian player Sulley Muntari was red-carded in Italy for walking off the field in protest at racist abuse. The Italian soccer federation overturned a one-game ban for Muntari in that case.

INSIDE THE NUMBERS

It is very early, though numbers are suggesting that defenses might have closed the gap a little bit on offenses this season.

Through the first 11% of the season, scoring is down roughly a point per game from last season's level — 111.2 per game then, 110.3 now. And field-goal shooting is down a bit as well, from 46.1% to 45.1% this season.

But the love affair with the 3-pointer continues: The league is on record pace for 3's made for an eighth consecutive season. On the down side, teams are averaging 16 turnovers per game — which would be the most since 1993-94.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Brooklyn at Utah, Tuesday: A Kyrie Irving vs. Donovan Mitchell matchup? Yes, please.

Philadelphia at Orlando, Wednesday: Markelle Fultz gets to play against his old team.

Dallas at New York, Thursday: Dallas' Kristaps Porzingis makes his return to New York.

Indiana at Houston, Friday: James Harden has shot 37% in his last six games vs. Pacers.

Girls get early training in art of writing thank-you notes

DEAR ABBY: I have my granddaughters write thank-you notes to everyone who gave them presents for Christmas, birthdays and special events. They are 7 and 8 years old now. They have fun drawing pictures and mailing the letters, and the recipients enjoy receiving their notes. I would like to order your Letters Booklet because it contains samples of many other types of correspondence. — Linda In Centerville, Texas

DEAR LINDA: You are giving your granddaughters an early lesson in good manners, and your idea of having them draw pictures on their thank-you notes is clever. Because most children like to draw, some parents have their children do this before they learn to write.

As your granddaughters grow older, suggest that they keep a notebook handy when they open their gifts and jot down the first thing that comes to mind when they see the gift. Do they like the color? The style? Is it something they have been wanting? Write it down and use it for inspiration.

My booklet is helpful for people of all ages who put off writing because they don't know what to say. It can be ordered by sending your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds), to Dear Abby Letters Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. Inside you will find many samples that can be used as patterns from which to write your own. For anyone who has ever wondered where to begin when writing a note of thanks, congratulations, condolences, composing a love letter or the opposite — announcing a broken engagement or a decision to divorce — "How to Write Letters" is a handy guide for putting words down on paper.

DEAR ABBY: A close friend of mine recently confided that at a recent office happy hour, after most of her co-workers went home, she made out with a married manager. After that, they went to another bar, after which he eventually paid a \$200 taxi ride for her to go to her parents' house where she was spending the weekend. Now they text after work hours (presumably while he is home with his wife and kids), and he has invited her out to lunch and drinks, which she has rebuffed.

I asked her what their goal was for this "relationship" — do they want an affair? Something more? She says they are just friends, and she's mad at me for even questioning it. She just broke up with her long-time boyfriend, and I don't want her to get hurt by getting involved with this man from her office. Any advice? — Worried Friend In New York

DEAR WORRIED FRIEND: You asked your friend an intelligent question. Now it's time to step back out of the line of fire. This will not end well, and somebody is going to be unhappy as this unfolds. Do not let it be you.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Dear Abby



CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 In need of sharpening
 - 5 Faint with pleasure
 - 10 Grand Tour site
 - 12 Actor Marlon —
 - 13 Pine products
 - 14 Like old butter
 - 15 Lots of spirit
 - 16 — kwon do
 - 18 Poor grade
 - 19 Roll with a hole
 - 21 Eddy
 - 25 Arkansas mountains
 - 29 Bilko's name
 - 30 Gazing at
 - 32 Full-length garment
 - 34 Free
 - 35 Lyrical
 - 37 Linguine topper
 - 38 Strike breakers
 - 40 Female rabbit
- DOWN**
- 43 Night before a big event
 - 44 Attention-getter
 - 48 Precious stones
 - 50 Small dining area
 - 52 Brunch fare
 - 53 Showy flower
 - 54 — nova
 - 55 Flake off

Answer to Previous Puzzle

B	O	S	C	T	U	N	Z	I	G
I	D	E	A	E	G	O	I	R	A
N	E	W	D	E	L	H	I	N	O
H	I	L	T	S	W	E	D	S	R
I	D	A	A	V	A	L	O	N	
C	L	I	P	A	R	E	E	G	G
K	Y	R	A	L	P	S	T	O	L
C	P	A	E	N	D	C	R	A	B
E	R	R	A	N	T	F	R	A	
D	A	R	N	I	L	L	U	M	I
E	T	O	N	N	E	E	P	I	E
E	W	E	E	S	I	A	S	I	B

- 10** Prior to
- 11** Are, in
- 12** Piece of cake
- 17** In time gone by
- 19** Meadow
- 20** NBA shots
- 21** Wine category
- 22** Tinfoil
- 23** Hard facts
- 24** Ceremony
- 26** Philoso-pher —
- 27** Little foxes
- 28** Fit of pique
- 31** Prizm maker
- 33** Most congenial
- 36** Cleveland hoopster
- 39** Necklace part
- 40** Showroom model
- 41** Has a mortgage
- 42** Snaky fish
- 44** Feel sore
- 45** Ice-fishing need
- 46** Harmful
- 47** Call — cab
- 48** Task
- 49** Grassy field
- 51** Swimmer's unit

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9
10				11		12			
13						14			
15				16	17			18	
			19				20		
21	22	23	24		25		26	27	28
29						30			31
32				33		34			
	35				36		37		
			38			39			
	40	41	42		43		44	45	46
48				49		50	51		
52						53			
54						55			

11-13 © 2019 UFS, Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

	4				8			3
	5				1			8
2		8	3	4	9			
1				3		6		
4	6	7		5		1	3	8
		5		1				2
			6	9	3	8		4
	8		2				9	
3			1				6	

11/13 © 2019 Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

How to play:

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

9	2	3	8	5	1	7	6	4
1	5	6	2	7	4	3	9	8
8	7	4	9	3	6	2	5	1
2	3	8	5	4	9	6	1	7
5	9	7	6	1	3	8	4	2
6	4	1	7	2	8	5	3	9
4	8	2	3	9	5	1	7	6
7	1	5	4	6	2	9	8	3
3	6	9	1	8	7	4	2	5

JUMBLE

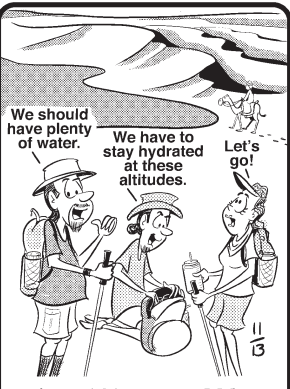
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SECR	T
LIYH	L
RIDFI	G
DALYR	H

©2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



AT OVER 4,000 FEET, THE GOBI DESERT HIKERS WEREN'T GOING TO BE ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ELITE WOMAN SCENIC SHRUNK Answer: When his favorite band started their concert, it was — MUSIC TO HIS EARS

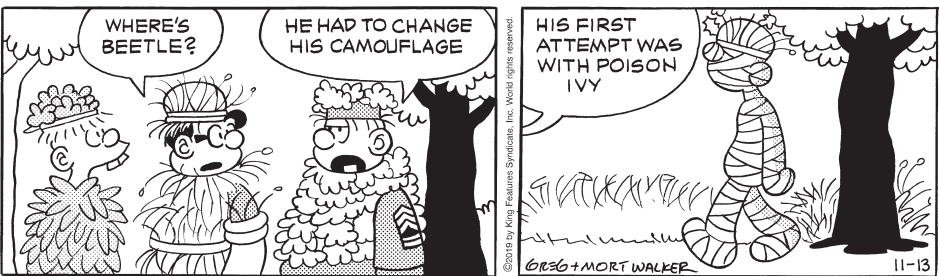
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



Little Billy continues his coverage of Daddy's bout with the flu.

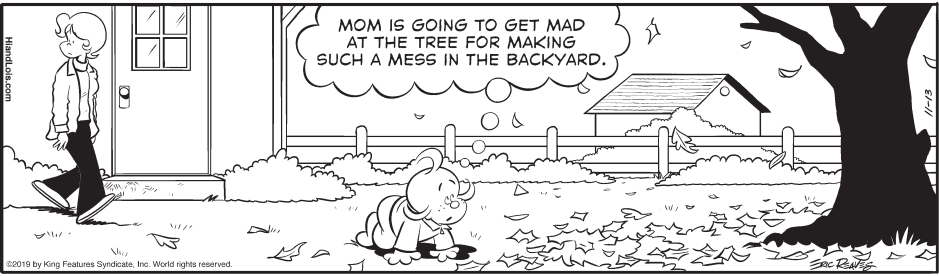
BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



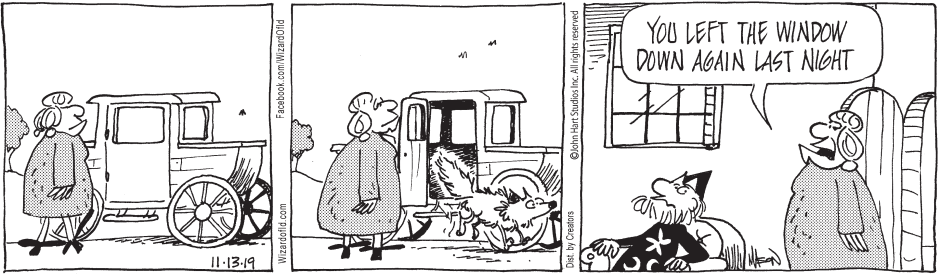
HI & LOIS



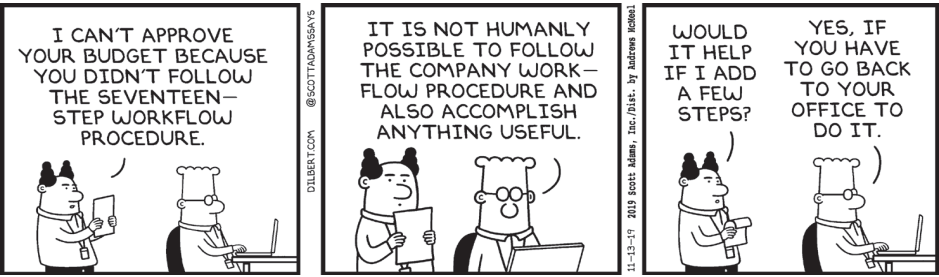
BC



WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES



Prayer shouldn't be a burden but a privilege

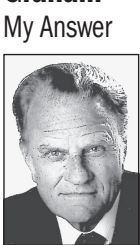
From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: Why is praying so hard? It seems that every time I sincerely try to pray, distractions come and I lose heart — P.W.

A: For many people prayer isn't a joy but a burden. When they fail to pray, they feel guilty; when they do pray, they worry that they might not be doing it correctly. Or disruptions break in and steal the time away. Or their prayers are wooden and lifeless, perhaps only repeating words learned in childhood but never engaging their minds or hearts. But this is the opposite of what prayer should be. Prayer shouldn't be a burden but a privilege — a privilege God has graciously given us because He enjoys fellowship with His saints. Remember: Jesus Christ died

Billy Graham

My Answer



to destroy the barrier of sin that separates us from God, and when we give our lives to Him, we have a personal relationship with Almighty God.

But central to any relationship is communication. It's true on a human level; what kind of relationship do two people have who never talk with each other? In a far greater way, our relationship with God involves communication — not just an occasional brief chat, but a deep sharing of ourselves and our concerns with God. Because Christ has opened Heaven's

door for us, the Bible says, we should "come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16).

Prayer is simply talking to God and God speaks with us through His Word. Both are essential — and both are gifts God has given us so we can know Him. Prayer is a gift from God's hand just as much as the Bible. Imagine being able to talk to the Creator and the King of glory. Time for prayer should be paramount to our daily lives.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"AO'PO RVYPMJRV / AO YPO CSBMOW / YWM AO'UO CSV VS COV SJPROBUOR / XYZF VS VLO CYPMOW." — TSWK
IKVZLOBB

Previous Solution: "Oh Lord, won't you buy me a Mercedes Benz? / My friends all drive Porsches, I must make amends." — Janis Joplin

TODAY'S CLUE: K S J N Q U P F

Evo Morales reaches Mexico as Bolivia seeks new leader

BY LUIS ANDRES HENAO and CARLOS VALDEZ
Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia — Evo Morales, who transformed Bolivia as its first indigenous president, flew to exile in Mexico on Tuesday after weeks of violent protests, leaving behind a confused power vacuum in the Andean nation.

Morales was met at Mexico City's airport by Foreign Secretary Marcelo Ebrard after a flight from Bolivia on a Mexican government plane and repeated his allegations he had been forced to resign by a coup.

"The president of Mexico saved my life," Morales said, thanking President Andrés Manuel López Obrador for granting him asylum. He vowed to "continue the struggle."

Meanwhile, supporters and foes of Morales once again headed for clashes in the streets of Bolivia's capital Tuesday and military fighter jets occasionally roared overhead on patrols.

An opposition leader called for a Senate session to choose an interim leader, but it wasn't immediately clear if the body could gather.

Prodded by military leaders, Morales stepped down Sunday following weeks of widespread protests fed by allegations of electoral fraud in the Oct. 20 presidential election that he claimed to have won.

Resignations by every other constitutionally designated successor left unclear who would take his place and how.

The Senate's second vice president, opposition politician Jeanine Añez, called a legislative session on Tuesday to formally accept Morales' resignation and choose an interim replacement.

Under the plan, she would take temporary control of the Senate, making her next in line for the presidency.

"The country is experiencing dramatic moments and all parliamentarians have the obligation to give certainty to the country," she told

a news conference.

But it wasn't immediately clear if the session would occur or if it a majority of senators would go along. Morales backers still have a majority in the body.

Several said that roadblocks set up by Morales' opponents were complicating efforts to reach the session.

Morales' departure was a dramatic fall for the one-time llama shepherd from the Bolivian highlands and former coca growers' union leader who as president helped lift millions out poverty, increased social rights and presided over nearly 14 years of stability and high economic growth in South America's poorest country.

In the end, though, his downfall was prompted by his insistence on holding onto power despite a public referendum against continuous reelections.

"It pains me to leave the country for political reasons, but I'll always be concerned," Morales said on Twitter. "I'll return soon, with more strength and energy."

Mexican Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard published a photo of Morales holding the flag of Mexico, saying that the plane had left Bolivia and that Morales was safe.

Ebrard said Mexican diplomats had to scramble to arrange a flight path for the plane because some nations initially closed airspace to it. The plane stopped in Paraguay to refuel and was due to arrive in Mexico later on Tuesday.

Angry supporters of the socialist leader set barricades ablaze to close some roads leading to the country's main airport Monday, while his foes blocked most of the streets leading to the capital's main square in front of Congress and the presidential palace. Police urged residents of La Paz to stay in their homes and authorities said the army would join in policing efforts to avoid an escalation of violence.

Local media reported that Morales supporters were marching on La Paz from the

nearby city of El Alto, a Morales stronghold, to try to break the street blockades thrown up by his opponents and reach the capital's main square.

But the tensions were defused after Gen. Williams Kaliman, the chief of the armed forces, announced a joint police-military operation in a television address. He said the hope was to "avoid bloodshed and mourning of the Bolivian family," and he urged Bolivians to help restore peace.

"It was a night of fear. I couldn't sleep and I just kept praying," said Yorka López, a homemaker, who handed out warm coffee to neighbors who had stayed out throughout the night in the streets guarding homes and businesses. Defense Minister Javier Zavaleta, a veteran politician and Morales ally, resigned over the decision to deploy the military.

Some sense of normalcy was returning to some cities Tuesday, with businesses rolling up the metal sheets that had guarded them from looting in past days, but some services remained interrupted.

Ronald Arias said he had left his home in El Alto and walked for three hours to his job in downtown La Paz because the cable car connecting the cities was suspended or security reasons and the barricades blocked access to public transportation.

Like Morales, Arias is also a native Aymara, and he said he was proud of the indigenous former leader. Thanks to him, his parents, who live in the countryside gained access for the first time to running water and gas for cooking.

"I was so saddened by his resignation," he said. "A lot of people in El Alto shed tears for the president."

Morales' presidency, the longest among serving leaders in the region and the longest ever in Bolivia, ended abruptly Sunday, hours after Morales had accepted calls for a new election by an Organization of American States team. The team reported a "heap of observed irregularities" in the Oct. 20 election whose official

results showed Morales getting just enough votes to avoid a runoff that analysts said he could lose against a united opposition.

Morales stepped aside only after the military chief called on him to quit, saying that was needed to restore peace and stability. His vice president also resigned as did the Senate president. The only other official listed by the constitution as a presidential successor, the head of the lower house, had resigned earlier.

Morales called the ouster a coup — a description echoed by his allies and others across the region worried at the military's role in deciding who should be president.

But his critics said the ouster was caused by a popular revolt, not a coup.

"Academics and the press have been very critical of the Bolivian military. But this might be the only time in Bolivian military history that the military is on the right side for once," said Eduardo Gamarra, a Bolivian political scientist at Florida International University.

"There's nothing here that remotely mirrors a traditional military coup," Gamarra added. "Perhaps this is a time that the military is playing a role that it should play. It's not intervening in what are essentially civilian affairs."

Morales, who was from the poor Andean highlands, had promised to remain austere when he became president in 2006. But shortly after, he bought a new airplane and built a 26-story presidential palace with a heliport.

"He fought poverty, he lifted our economy, but perhaps he wasn't well advised," said España Villegas, a linguist who watched televised replays of Morales' resignation while awaiting a flight at the airport.

Morales ran for a fourth term after refusing to accept the results of a referendum that upheld term limits for the president — restrictions thrown out by a top court that critics contend was stacked in his favor.

Israel targets Islamic Jihad leader, sending message to Iran

BY JOSEF FEDERMAN and FARES AKRAM
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel on Tuesday targeted two senior commanders from the Palestinian militant group Islamic Jihad, killing one in the Gaza Strip and missing the second in Syria as it stepped up its battle against Iran and its proxies across the region.

The death of Bahaa Abu el-Atta and his wife as they slept in their home in eastern Gaza set off the heaviest fighting in months between Israel and Islamic Jihad, an Iranian-backed militant group that is even more hard-line than Gaza's Hamas rulers. Gaza militants fired scores of rockets into Israel throughout the day, some reaching as far as Tel Aviv, while Israeli warplanes responded with a series of airstrikes on Islamic Jihad targets. Five other militants were killed. "Whoever thinks that it is possible to hurt our citizens and evade our long arm is mistaken," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said at a meeting of top security officials at Israeli military headquarters in Tel Aviv.

He said the killing had been approved 10 days earlier, and that Israel had waited for the "optimal conditions" to hit him while minimizing civilian casualties. He said Israel was not interested in escalation but warned: "This could take time."

Egypt, which frequently mediates between Israel and Gaza militants, was working to de-escalate tensions, according to officials in Cairo. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media. In a possible sign the fighting could be brief, Gaza's ruling Hamas militant group did not take part in Tuesday's rocket fire. Although larger and more powerful than Islamic Jihad, Hamas is also more pragmatic. With Gaza's economy in tatters, it appears to have little desire for another round of fighting with Israel.

Netanyahu has repeatedly said in speeches in recent weeks that Iran, Israel's archenemy, is becoming increasingly aggressive across the region and vowed to strike back. Iran has forces based in Syria, Israel's northern neighbor and supports Hezbollah militants in Lebanon. In Gaza, it supplies Islamic Jihad with cash, weapons and expertise. Netanyahu has also claimed that Iran is using Iraq and far-off Yemen to plan attacks against Israel. Hamas also receives some support from Iran.

Israel frequently strikes Iranian interests in Syria. But Tuesday's airstrike in Damascus appeared to be a rare assassination attempt of a Palestinian militant in the Syrian capital. Syria's state-run news agency said Israeli warplanes fired three missiles at the home of Akram al-Ajouri, a member of Islamic Jihad's leadership living in exile. Ajouri was not harmed, but his son and granddaughter were killed, the report said. The Israeli military had no comment. The airstrike came at a sensitive time for the

Israeli leader. After two inconclusive elections this year, Netanyahu heads a caretaker government and is fighting for his political survival ahead of a possible indictment on corruption charges.

After Netanyahu failed to cobble together a parliamentary coalition following an election in September, his chief rival, Benny Gantz, is now trying to form a government.

Despite their bitter rivalry, the two projected a message of unity on Tuesday. Gantz, a former military chief who led a 2014 war against Gaza militants, said he had been consulted by Netanyahu ahead of the overnight airstrike and called it the "right decision."

Both men have expressed support for a unity government between their parties in order to avoid yet another election. But both have demanded that they lead the government.

A successful military operation could bolster Netanyahu as he seeks to stay in power — especially if he is indicted on corruption charges, as expected, in the coming weeks.

Netanyahu has sought to portray himself as the only leader capable of steering Israel through its many security challenges. Remaining prime minister would leave him in the best position to fight any charges, since all other Cabinet ministers must automatically resign if indicted.

Efraim Inbar, president of the Jerusalem Institute for Strategy and Security, said protracted fighting could push the two men toward compromise. "It could be used as a moment for a national unity government," he said.

But Stav Shaffir, a lawmaker with the dovish Democratic Union, questioned the timing and motives of the killing. "It's hard not to ask questions about timing," she tweeted. "Above every decision hovers a cloud of suspicions."

The Gaza airstrike killed Abu el-Atta as he slept at home, destroying the top floor of his apartment building. Abu el-Atta's relatives and the Islamic Jihad said Abu el-Atta's wife was killed and the two wounded were their children.

Islamic Jihad is much smaller than Hamas. But with the strong support of Iran, it has become much more aggressive in its confrontations with Israel. It often acts without Hamas' support.

In recent weeks, Israeli media had identified Abu el-Atta as a senior militant responsible for repeated rocket attacks, including a late-night barrage over the Jewish sabbath two weeks ago. His father said the Islamic Jihad commander had been in hiding in recent weeks, fearing he would be targeted.

Minutes after the group confirmed the death, rockets were fired toward Israel. Air raid sirens continued to go off throughout the day as far away as Tel Aviv.

By nightfall, the army said nearly 200 rockets had been fired, with about half landing in open spaces and dozens more intercepted by Israel's Iron Dome defense system. But in one instance, a rocket landed on a highway, just yards from a passing vehicle. In another, a rocket pierced the roof of a residential home.

Clinton criticizes U.K. for blocking Russian influence report

BY DANICA KIRKA
Associated Press

LONDON — Hillary Clinton says she's "dumbfounded" that the U.K. government has failed to release a report on Russian influence in British politics before the country holds a national election next month.

The former U.S. presidential candidate told British media that the public needs to know what is in the report by Parliament's Intelligence and Security Committee before British voters go to the polls on Dec. 12.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's government has said it needs more time to review the security implications of the report before it is released. Critics allege the report is being withheld until after the election because it is embarrassing to Johnson's Conservative Party, which is trying to win a majority and push through Johnson's Brexit plan to take Britain out of the European Union.

"I'm dumbfounded that this government won't release the report ... because every person who votes in this country deserves to see that report before your election happens," Clinton told the BBC on Tuesday. "There is no doubt ... that Russia in particular is determined to try to shape the politics of Western democracies, not to our benefit

but to theirs."

Former Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into the 2016 U.S. presidential election found that Russia interfered in the vote in a "sweeping and systemic" fashion. U.S. President Donald Trump, who won office in that vote, has dismissed the Mueller report's conclusions, but the investigation put Russia into the crosshairs of a debate on the integrity of elections worldwide.

Clinton also spoke about the British report with the Guardian newspaper as she promoted "The Book of Gutsy Women," a work co-authored with her daughter, Chelsea. The former U.S. Secretary of State said she wished she had been more "gutsy" in exposing Russian efforts to influence the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

"I am, as a great admirer of Britain, concerned, because I can't make sense of what is happening," Clinton told the Guardian. "We have a president who admires dictators and takes their help and does all kinds of crazy stuff. So we need you to be the sane member of this partnership going forward."

The Intelligence and Security Committee sent its report the prime minister for review on Oct. 17, saying it expected "to publish the report imminently." Committee

Chairman Dominic Grieve has criticized the government for failing to release the study amid media reports it has already been cleared by British security services.

Bill Browder, founder of Hermitage Capital Management, told The Associated Press that he is among those who gave evidence to the committee. Browder worked in Russia until 2005 and has campaigned for sanctions against Russian President Vladimir Putin's government since 2009, when his lawyer died in a Russian prison.

He said by failing to release the report, Johnson has made it worse for himself by implying there is something to hide.

"Nobody likes a cover-up," Browder said.

Lawmakers from a range of parties, including Johnson's Conservatives, have urged the government to publish the report during a debate in the House of Commons. But Foreign Office minister Christopher Pincher argued it was "not unusual" for the review of such reports to "take some time."

The Russian report comes amid increasing concerns about the security of an election fought in an increasingly digital world. Britain's election laws are woefully out of date, written more for a time when leaflets were pushed through mailboxes instead of

having Facebook and other social media publish political ads.

Following an 18-month investigation into online privacy and the use of social media to spread disinformation, an influential parliamentary committee in February urged the British government to urgently approve new laws addressing internet campaign techniques, insisting that democracy itself was under threat.

While the government agreed with many of the recommendations made by the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee, it has done little other than circulate its own report for public comment in preparation for future legislation.

Former Committee Chairman Damian Collins said the government had planned to modernize Britain's electoral laws by 2021 or 2022, the original date for the next general election.

But Johnson called an early election in response to the political turmoil caused by Britain's pending departure from the EU, which is now scheduled for Jan. 31.

Britain's 46 million eligible voters will be choosing 650 lawmakers in the House of Commons in the Dec. 12 vote and the election campaign is already being fought fiercely online.

Tourists, Venetians slosh through flooded lagoon city

BY BU LUCA BRUNO
Associated Press

VENICE, Italy — Tourists and Venetians alike donned high boots and took to strategically placed raised walkways on Tuesday to slosh through the high water that has hit much of the lagoon city.

Venice's tide forecast office

said the water level peaked at about 4 feet 3 inches Tuesday morning but warned that an even higher tide was forecast for after nightfall.

The high water invaded cafes, stores and other businesses. Sirens warned people in Venice of the rising water, and as a precaution, authorities closed nursery schools.

A top tourist attraction, the Ducal Palace, just off St. Mark's Square, tweeted that it's "open today, despite the exceptional tide," and advised visitors to use the raised walkways leading to its entrance.

Many hotels keep disposable knee-high plastic boots handy for tourists. Venetians' wardrobes often include

over-the-knee rubber boots.

As the phenomenon of high water, locally known as "acqua alta," goes, the levels Tuesday, while amusing for tourists and a nuisance for residents going about their business, were far lower than the 6 feet 4 inches in the devastating November 1966 flood in Venice.

But even lesser levels of the salty high water, over the years, take their toll on the city, eroding foundations of homes, businesses and city buildings.

Bad weather is continuing to dog Italy, with no real let-up forecast for several days.

In Policoro, a southern town in an area known for its

ancient Greek ruins, a whirlwind ripped the roofs off two homes, but the occupants inside escaped injury, Italian news reports said.

In that same region of Basilicata, swaths of the tourist town of Matera, famed for its Sassi former cave dwellings, were flooded after heavy rains.

